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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Klimek et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,204,975 B2**  
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(54) **MULTI-PIECE INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANTS**

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 13/559,917, filed on Jul. 27, 2012, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 13/267,119, filed on Oct. 6, 2011.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/535,726, filed on Sep. 16, 2011.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

**A61F 2/44** (2006.01)

**A61F 2/28** (2006.01)

**A61F 2/30** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ..... **A61F 2/447** (2013.01); **A61F 2/442** (2013.01); **A61F 2/4455** (2013.01); **A61F 2002/2835** (2013.01); **A61F 2002/3039** (2013.01); **A61F 2002/3081** (2013.01); **A61F 2002/30131** (2013.01); **A61F 2002/30332** (2013.01); **A61F 2002/30354** (2013.01); (Continued)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC ..... **A61F 2/442**; **A61F 2/4455**; **A61F 2/447**;

A61F 2002/2835; A61F 2002/30131; A61F 2002/30332; A61F 2002/30354; A61F 2002/30359; A61F 2002/30383; A61F 2002/30385; A61F 2002/30387; A61F 2002/3039; A61F 2002/30405; A61F 2002/30418; A61F 2002/30433; A61F 2002/30448; A61F 2002/30487; A61F 2002/30604; A61F 2002/30607; A61F 2002/30785; A61F 2002/30787; A61F 2002/30808; A61F 2002/3081; A61F 2002/30828; A61F 2002/30836; A61F 2002/30841; A61F 2002/30843; A61F 2002/30904; A61F 2002/4475; A61F 2310/00017; A61F 2310/00023; A61F 2310/00359; A61F 2002/30492; A61F 2002/30599; A61F 2002/30772; A61F 2002/30822

USPC ..... 623/17.11–17.16  
See application file for complete search history.

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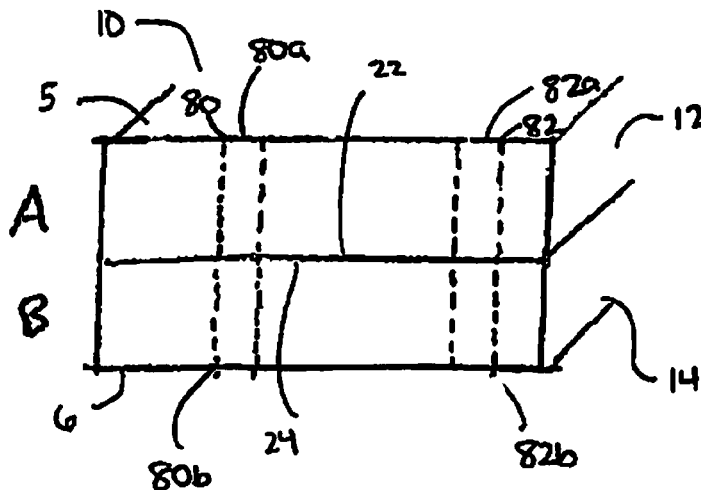
*Primary Examiner* — Pedro Philogene

(57)

**ABSTRACT**

Intervertebral implants for implanting into an intervertebral space are provided. The implants can comprise one or more layers that are operably attached to one another. An implant can comprise a first layer having a first mating surface that mates with a second mating surface of a second layer. The first mating surface and the second mating surface can have features that allow them to complement each other. The implants can include one or more bore holes for receiving a fixation member. The bore holes can be horizontal, vertical or diagonal. In some cases, the bore holes will be blind bore holes.

**20 Claims, 48 Drawing Sheets**



## (52) U.S. Cl.

CPC ..... *A61F 2002/30359* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30383* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30385* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30387* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30405* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30418* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30433* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30448* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30472* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30487* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30492* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30599* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30604* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30607* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30772* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30785* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30787* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30808* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30822* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30828* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30836* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30841* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30843* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/30904* (2013.01); *A61F 2002/4475* (2013.01); *A61F 2310/00017* (2013.01); *A61F 2310/00023* (2013.01); *A61F 2310/00359* (2013.01)

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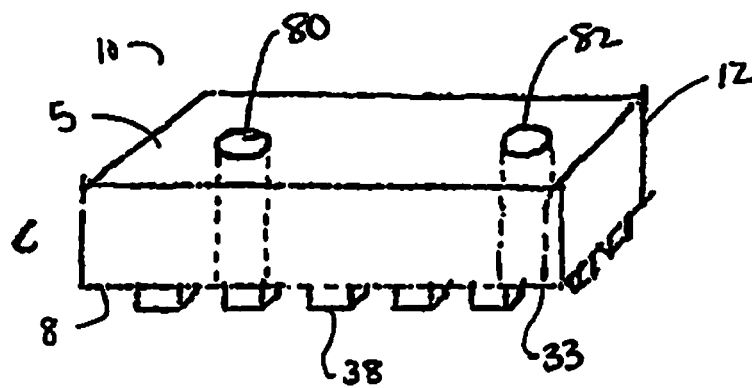
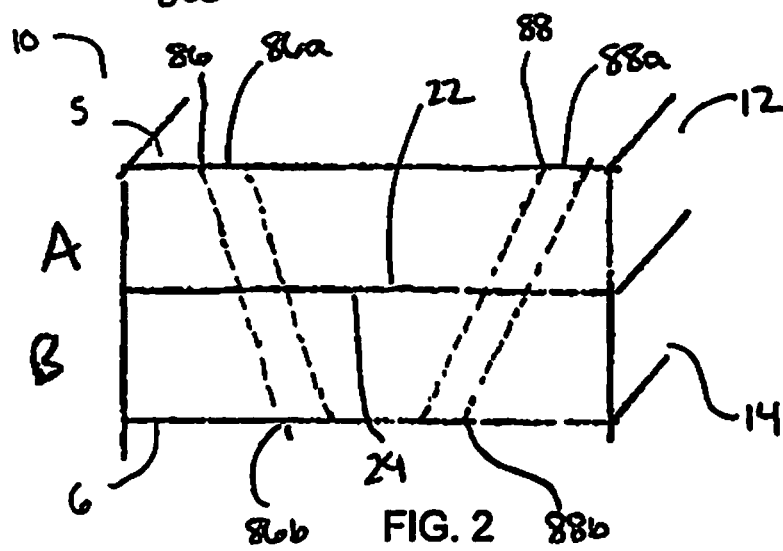
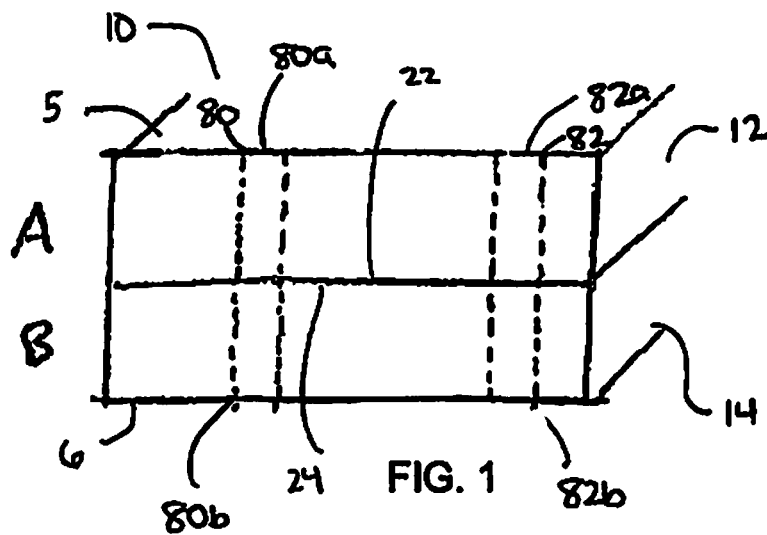
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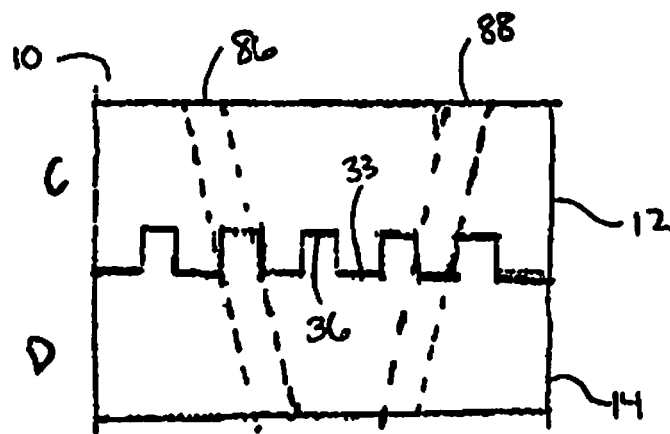
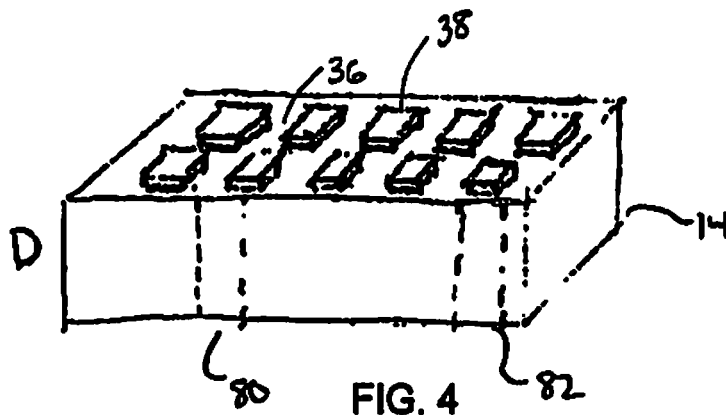


FIG. 5

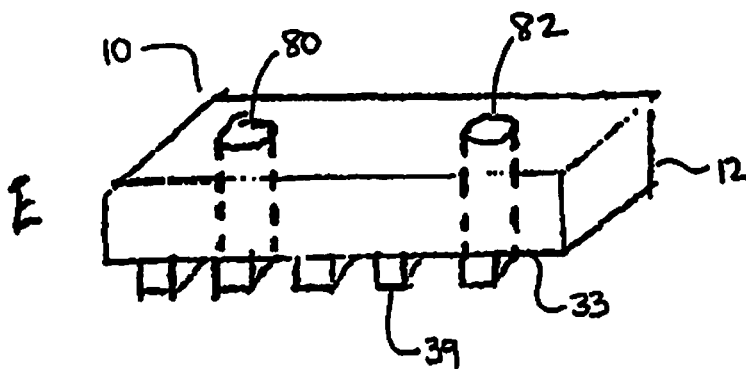


FIG. 6

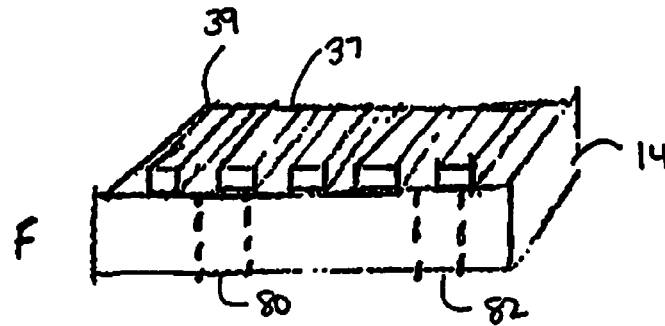


FIG. 7

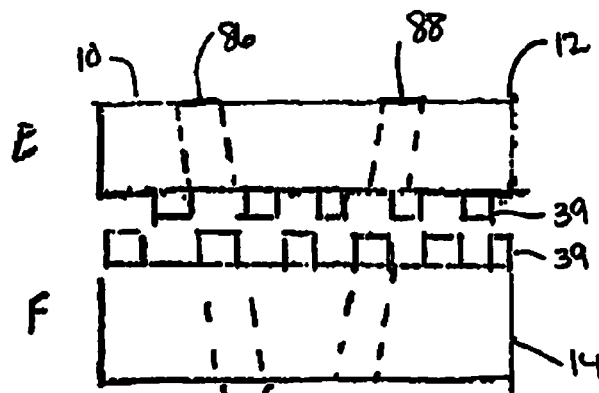


FIG. 8

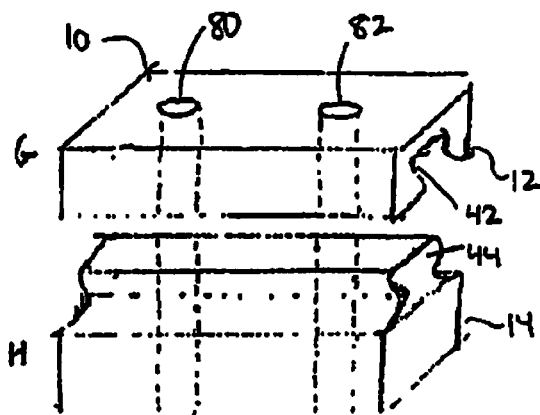


FIG. 9A

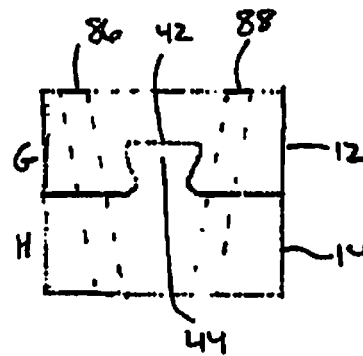


FIG. 9B

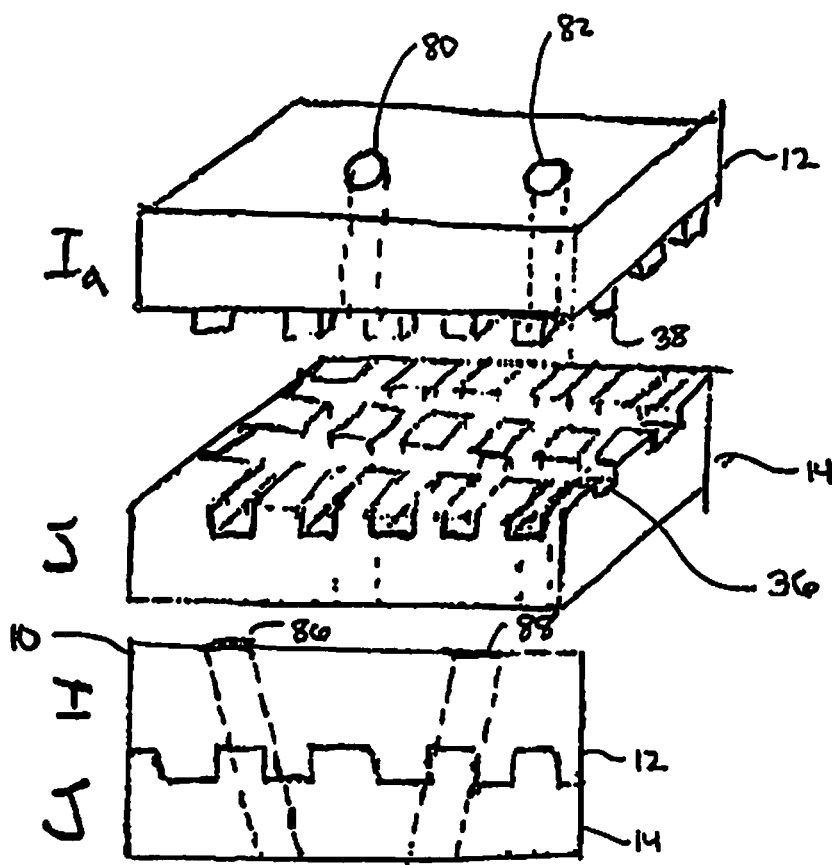


FIG. 10A

FIG. 10B

FIG. 10C

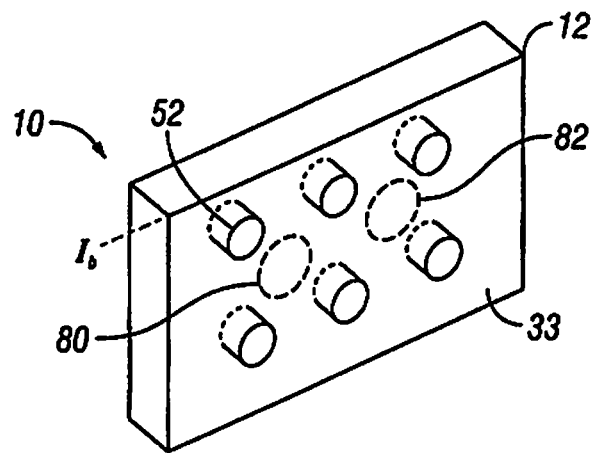


FIG. 11A

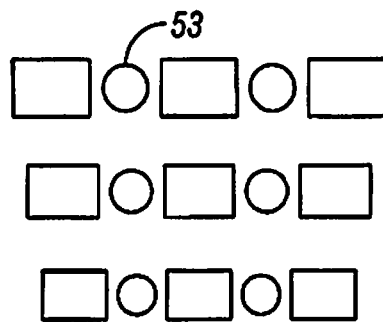


FIG. 11B

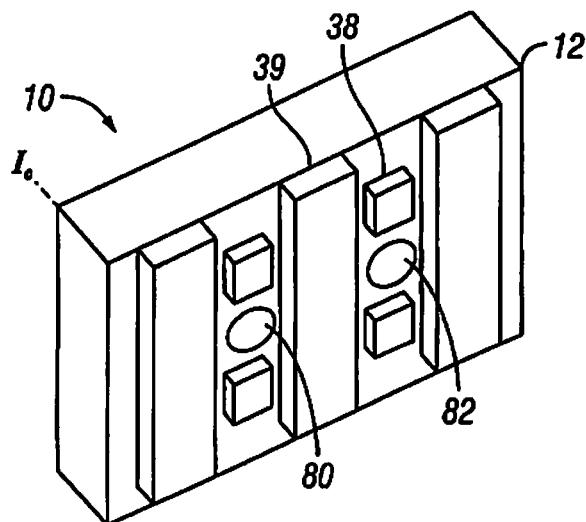
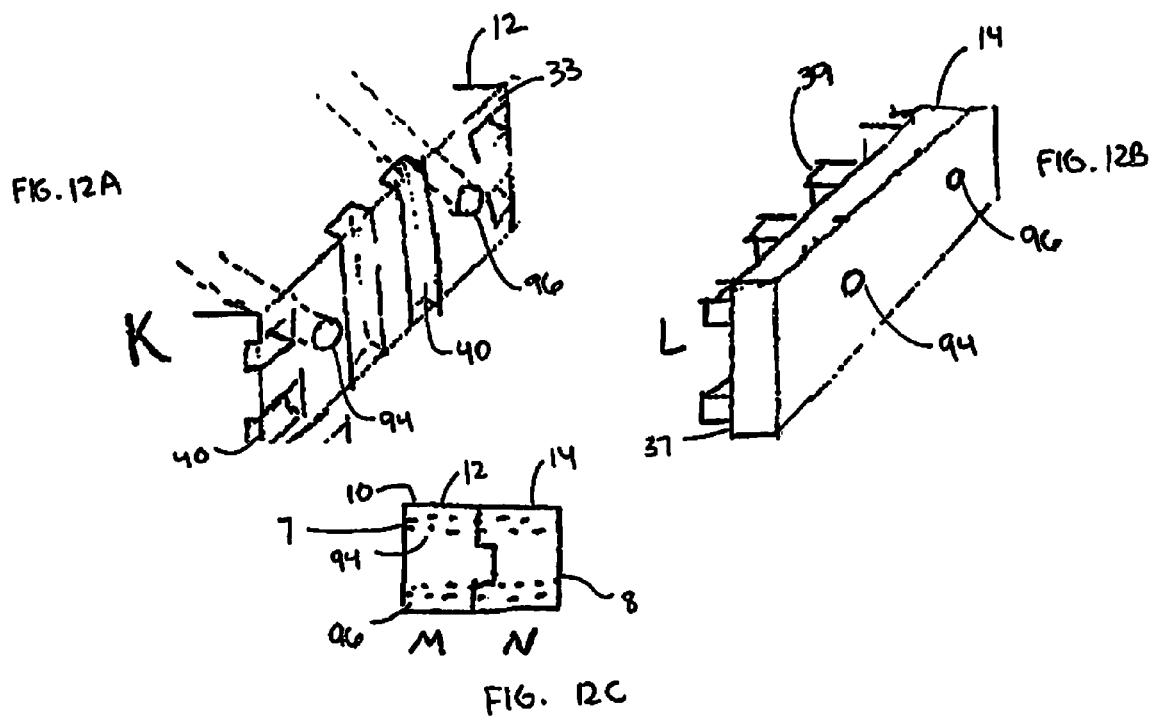
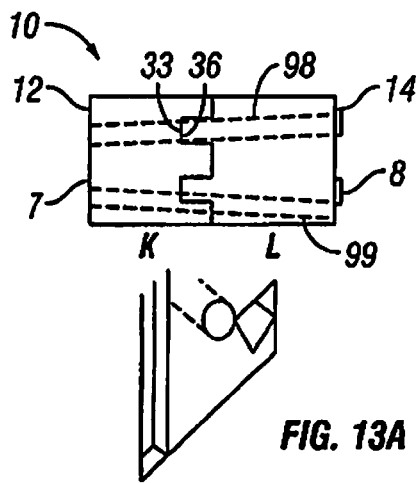


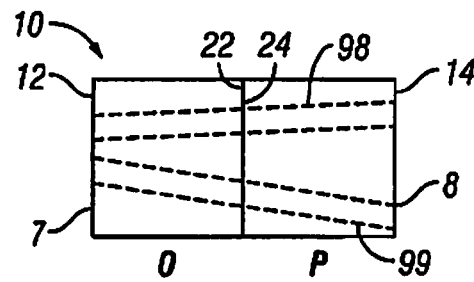
FIG. 11C



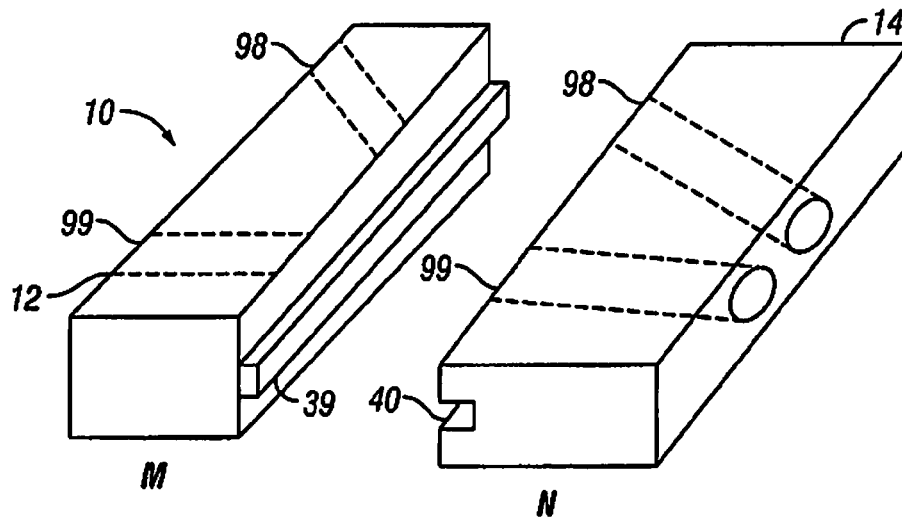




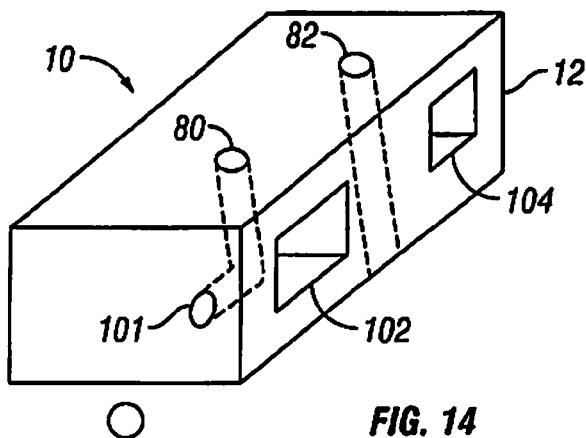
**FIG. 13A**



**FIG. 13B**



**FIG. 13C**



**FIG. 14**

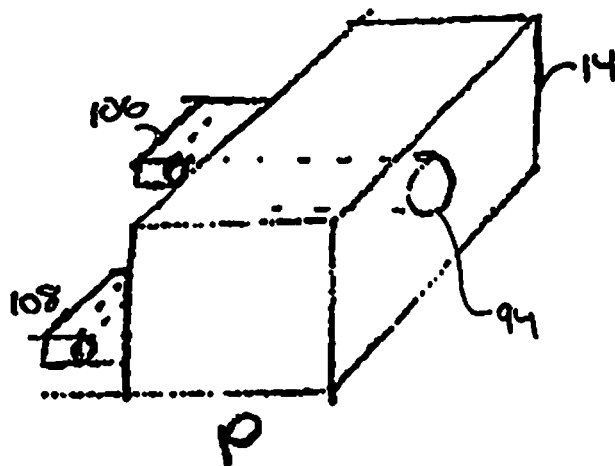


FIG. 15

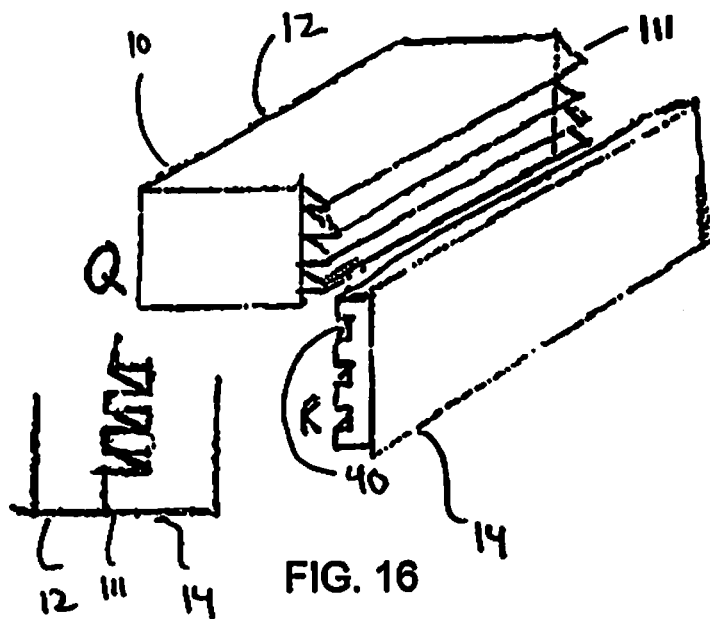


FIG. 16

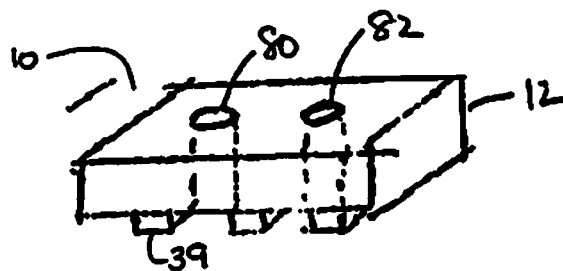


FIG. 17

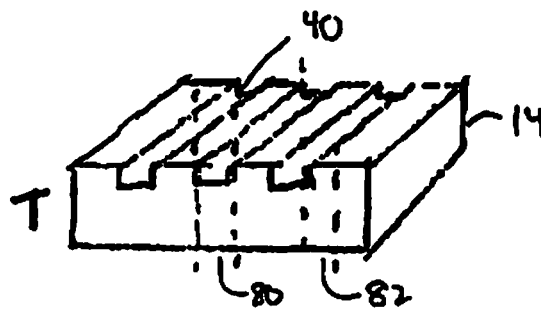


FIG. 18

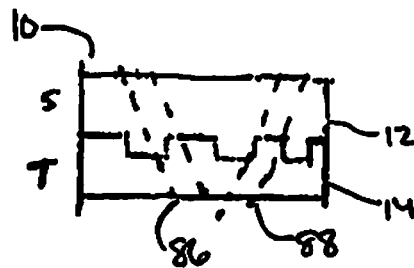
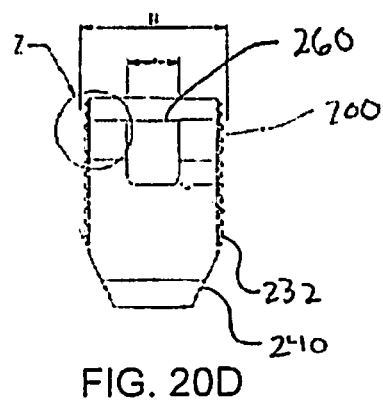
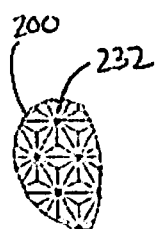
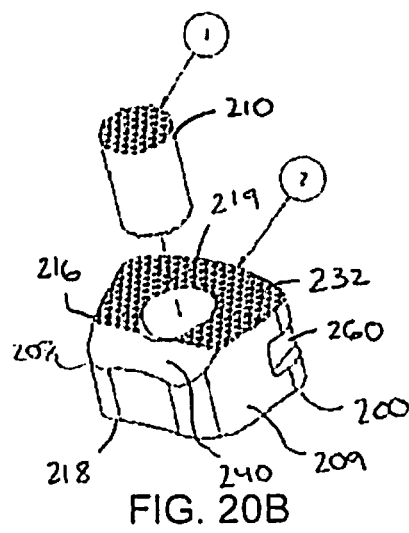
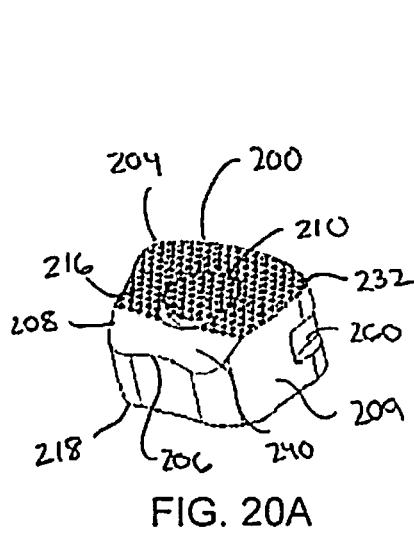


FIG. 19



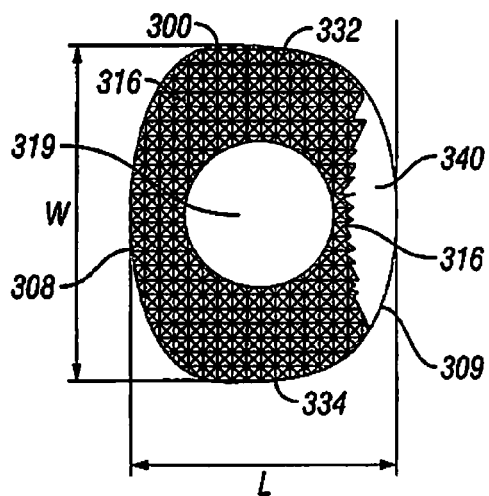


FIG. 21A

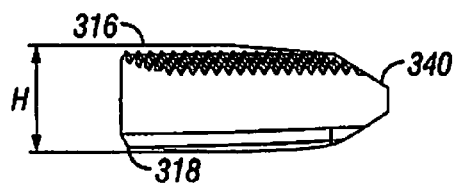


FIG. 21B



FIG. 21C

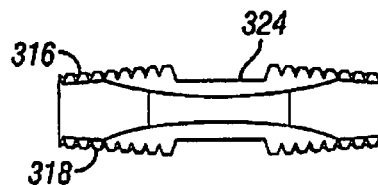


FIG. 21D

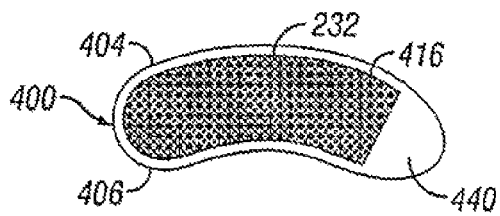


FIG. 22A

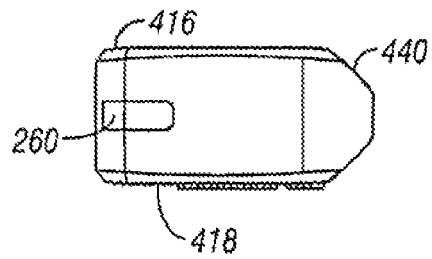


FIG. 22B

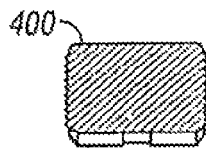


FIG. 22C

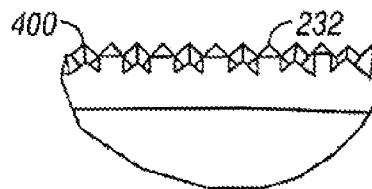


FIG. 22D

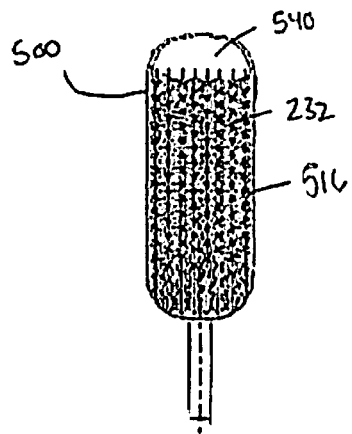


FIG. 23A

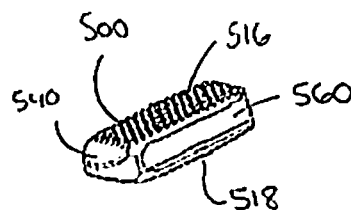


FIG. 23B

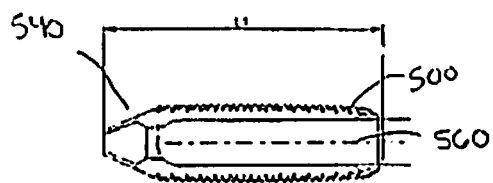


FIG. 23C

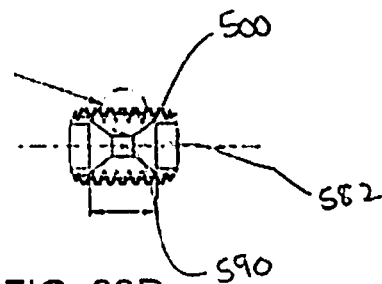


FIG. 23D

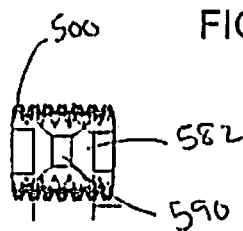


FIG. 23E

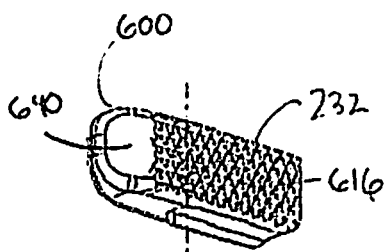


FIG. 24A

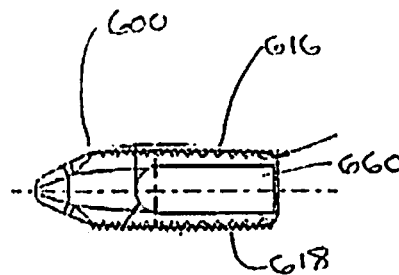


FIG. 24B

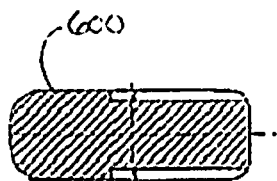


FIG. 24C



FIG. 24D

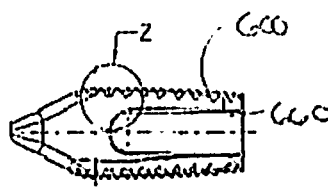


FIG. 24E



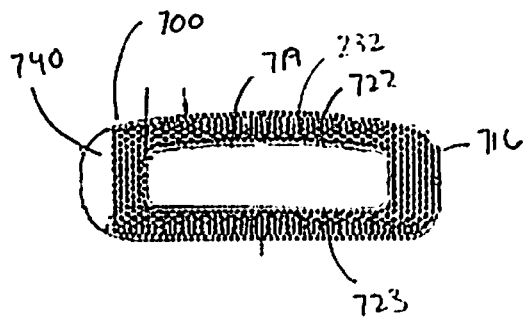


FIG. 25A

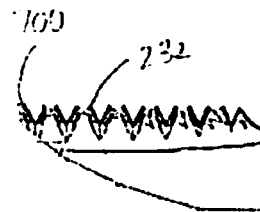


FIG. 25B

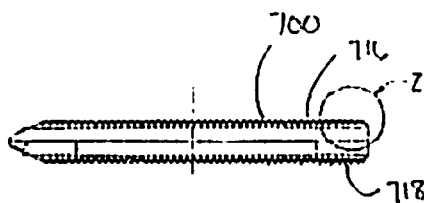


FIG. 25C

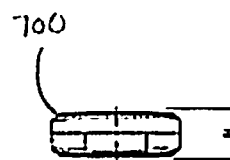


FIG. 25D

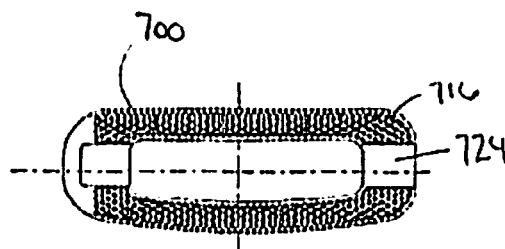


FIG. 25E

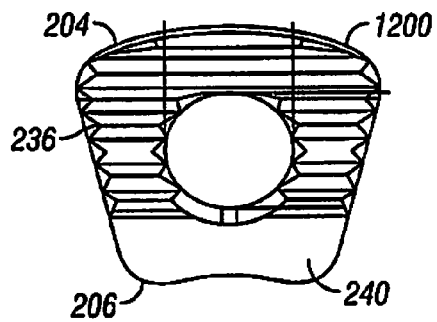


FIG. 26A

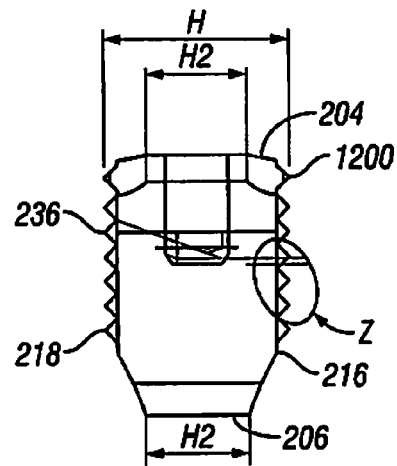


FIG. 26B

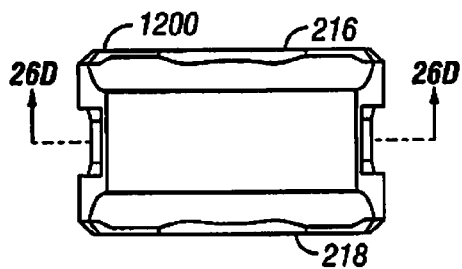


FIG. 26C

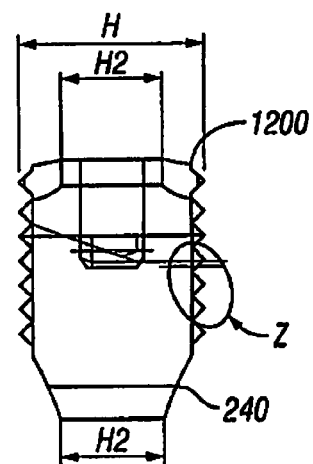
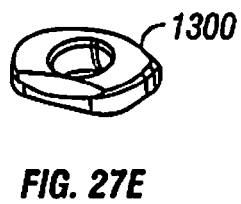
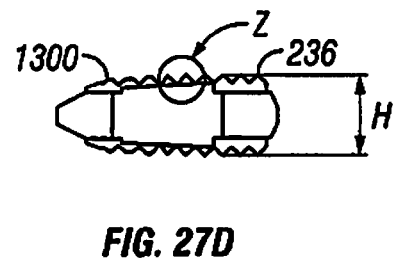
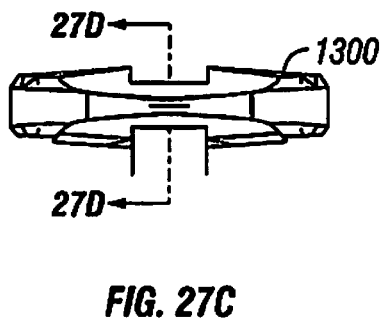
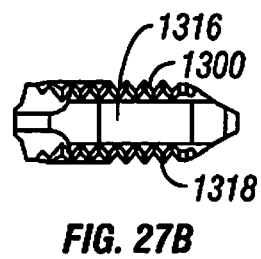
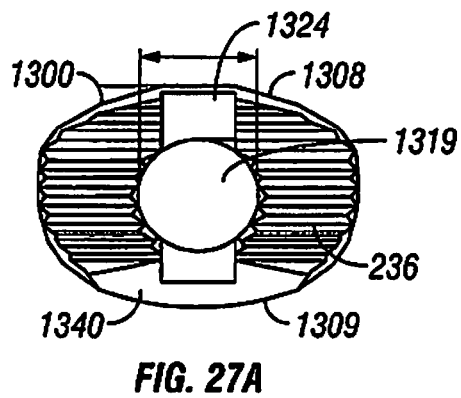


FIG. 26D



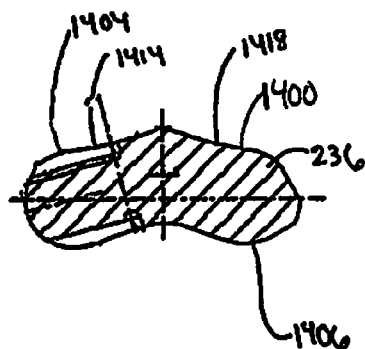


FIG. 28A

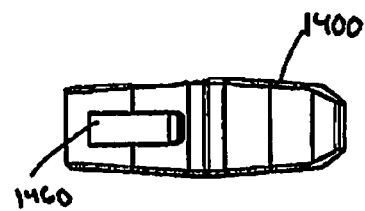


FIG. 28B

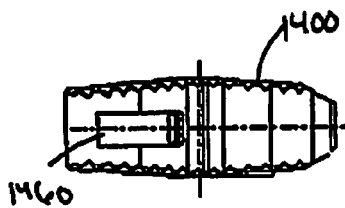


FIG. 28C

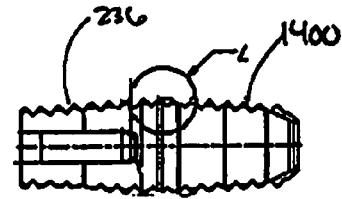


FIG. 28D

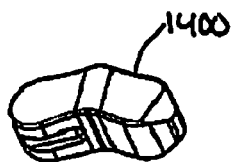


FIG. 28E

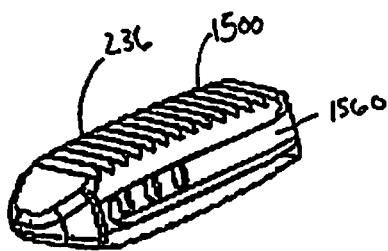


FIG. 29A

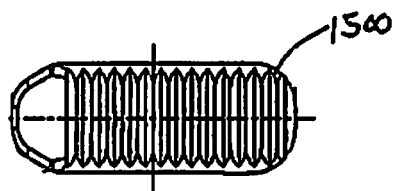


FIG. 29B

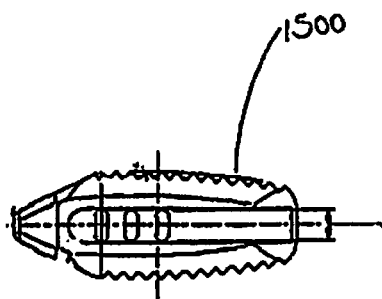


FIG. 29C

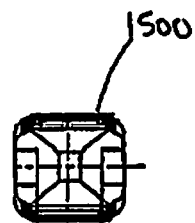


FIG. 29C

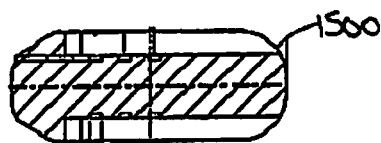


FIG. 29E

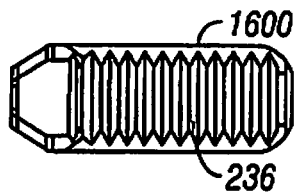


FIG. 30A

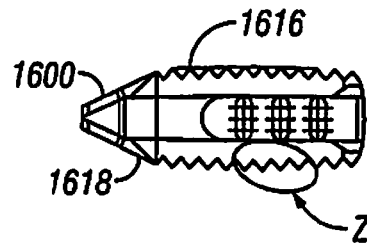


FIG. 30B

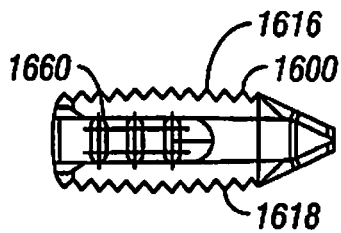


FIG. 30C

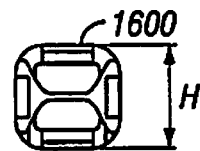


FIG. 30D

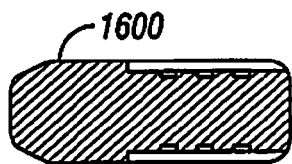


FIG. 30E

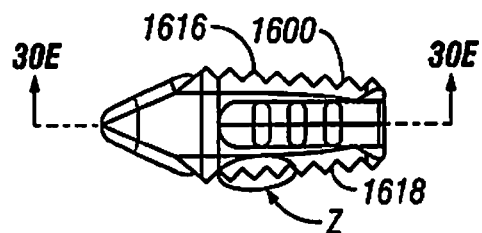
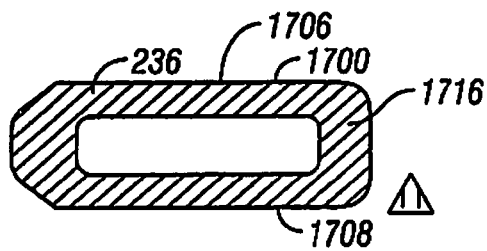
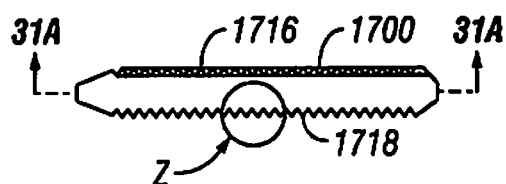


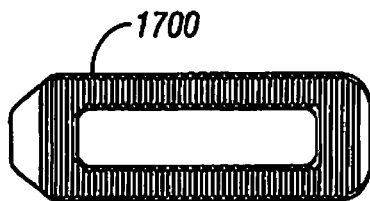
FIG. 30F



**FIG. 31A**



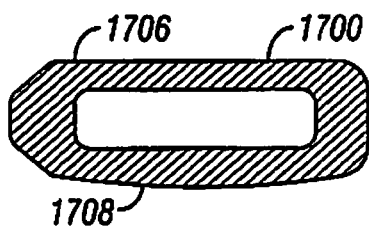
**FIG. 31B**



**FIG. 31C**



**FIG. 31D**



**FIG. 31E**



**FIG. 31F**

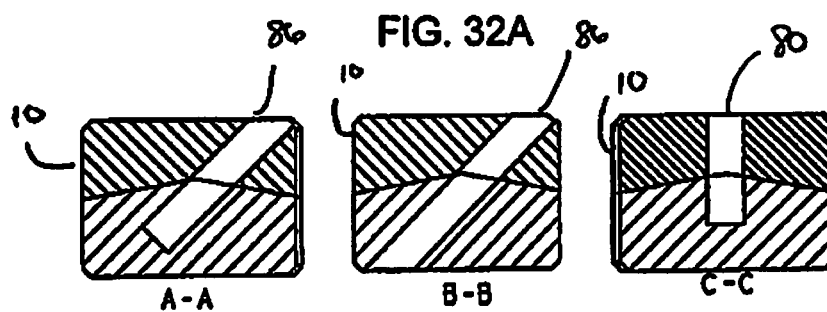
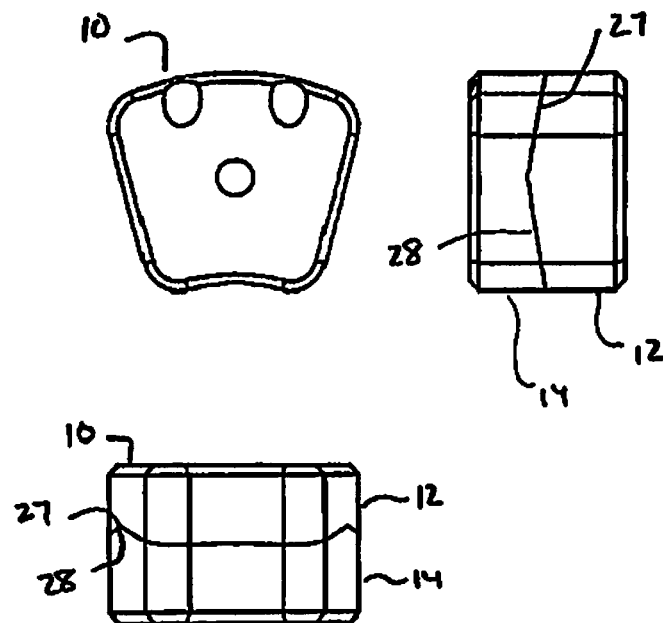


FIG. 32B

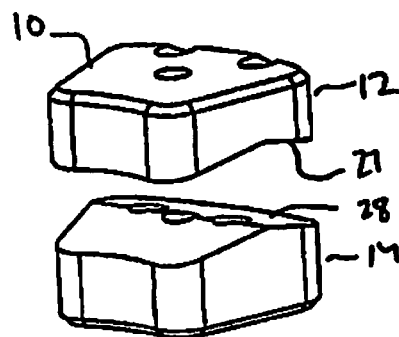


FIG. 32C



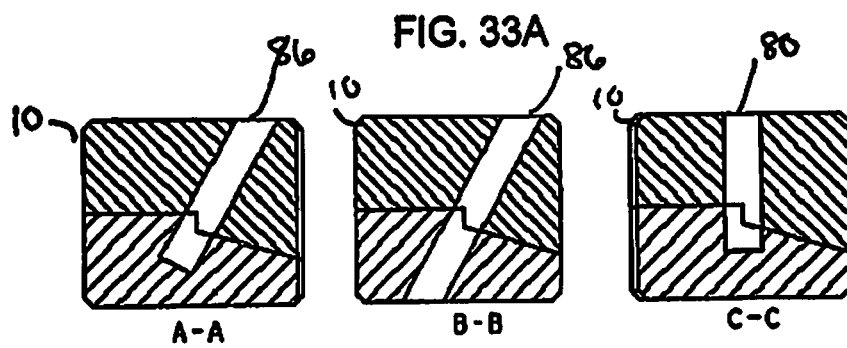
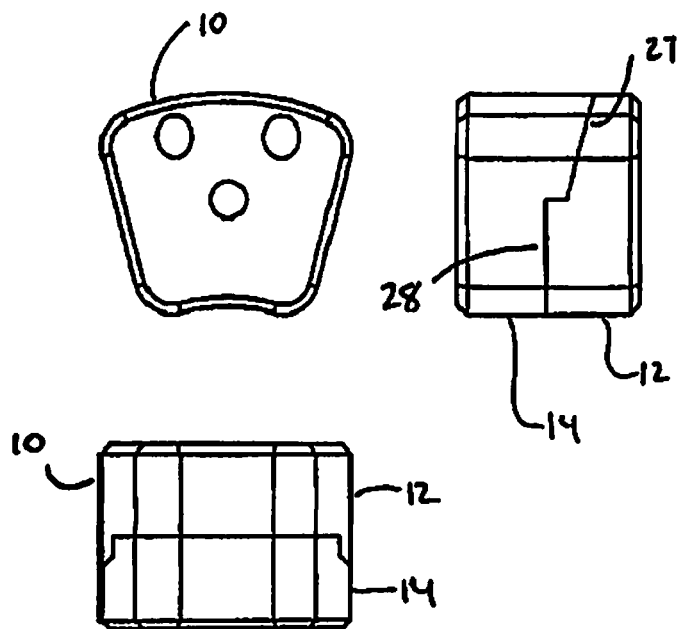


FIG. 33B

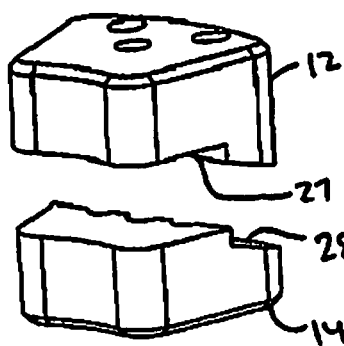


FIG. 33C

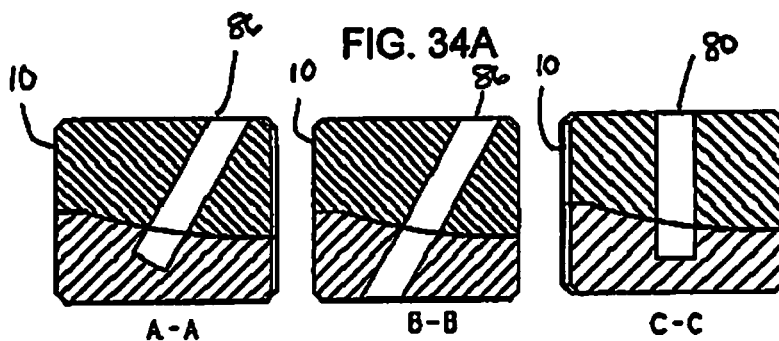
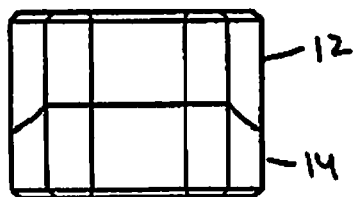
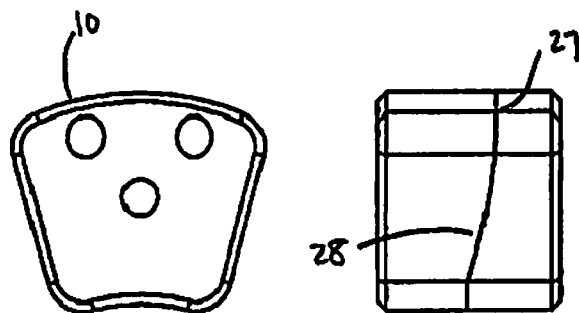


FIG. 34B

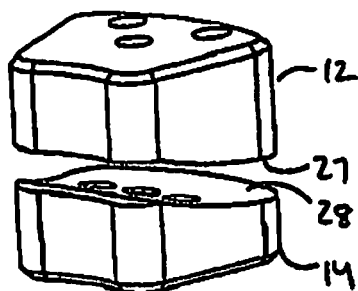


FIG. 34C

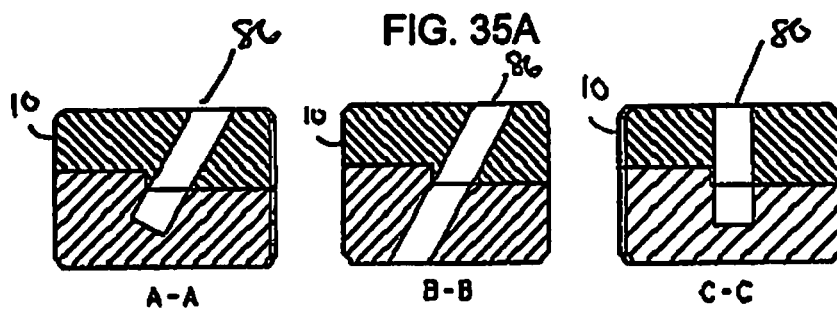
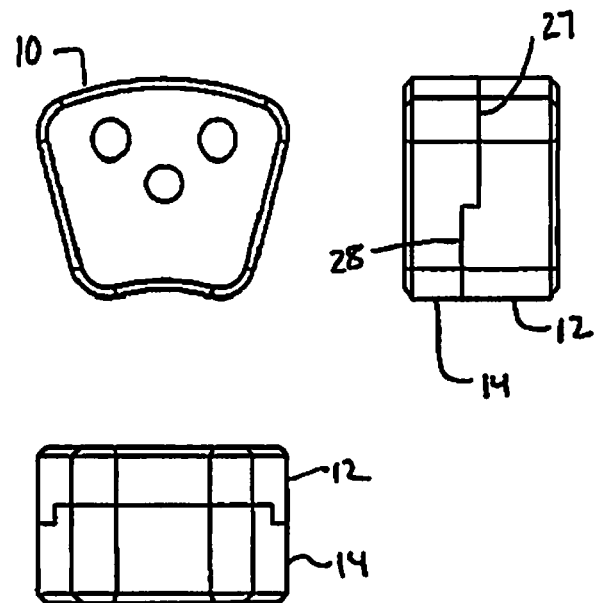


FIG. 35B

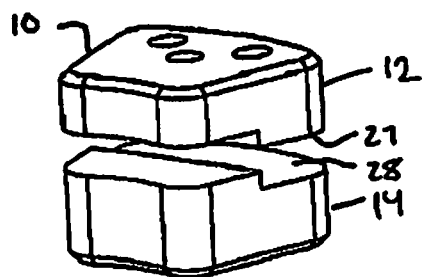


FIG. 35C

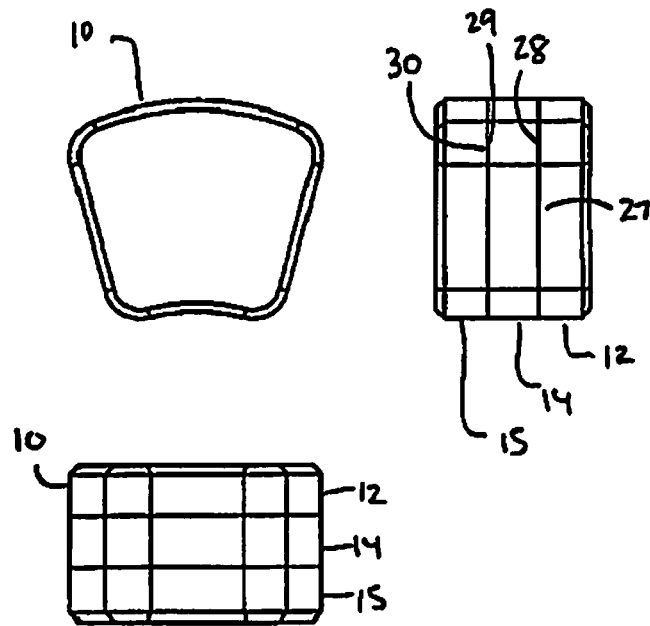


FIG. 36A

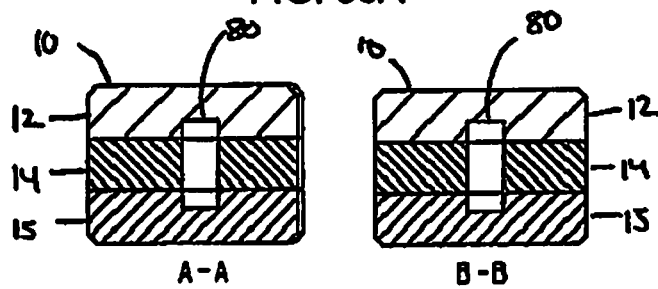


FIG. 36B

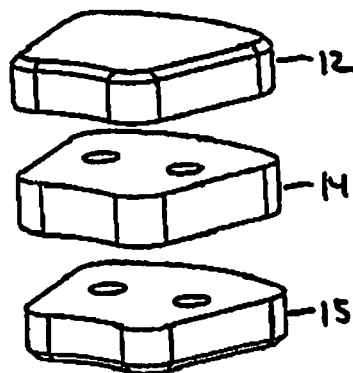


FIG. 36C

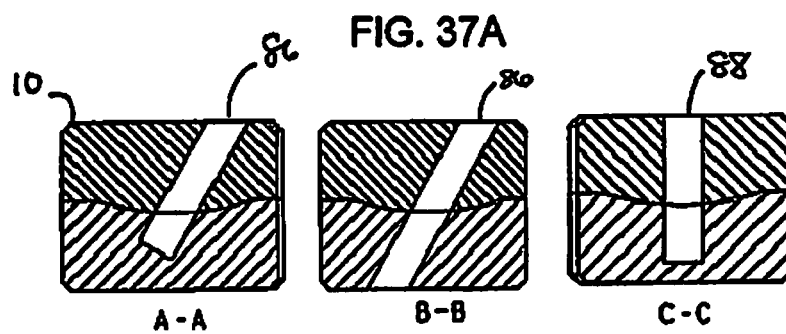
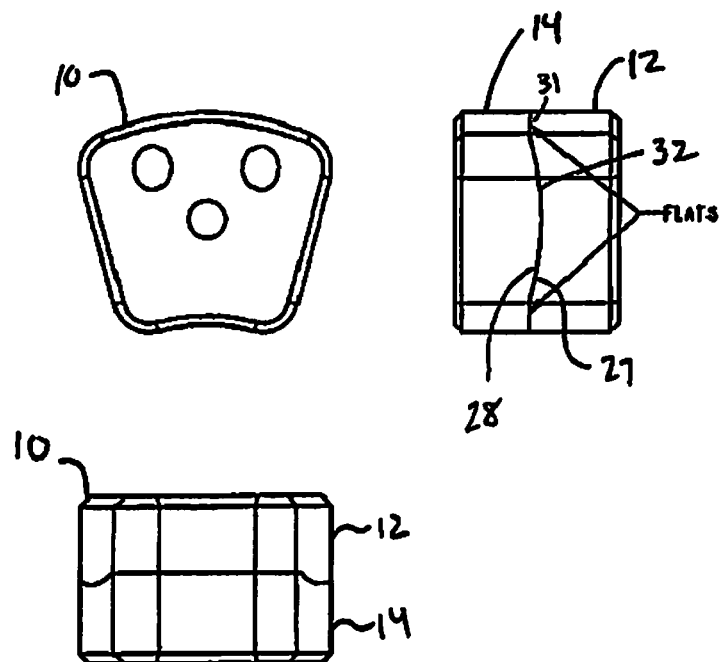


FIG. 37B

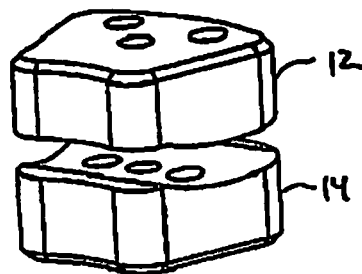


FIG. 37C

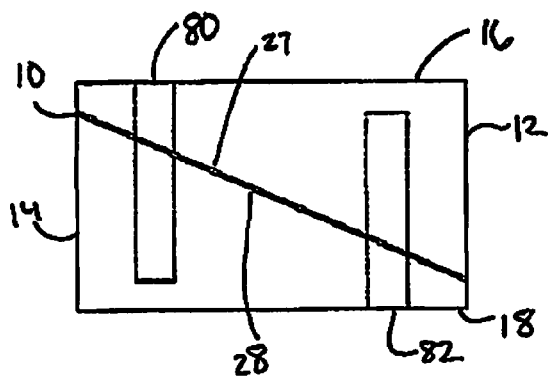
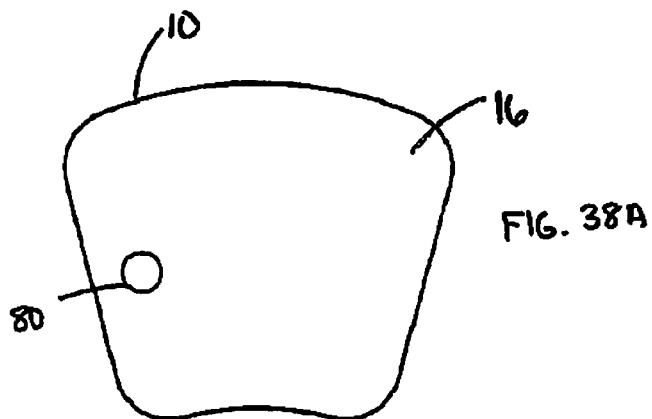


FIG. 38B

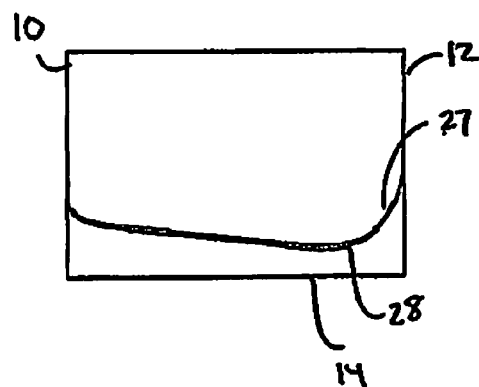


FIG. 38C

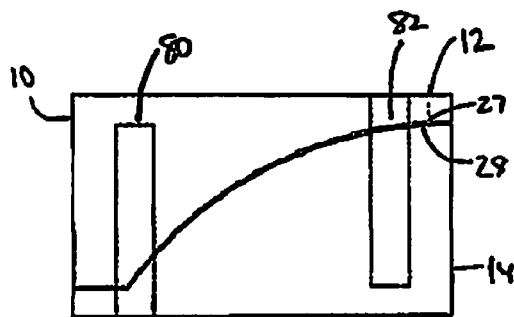
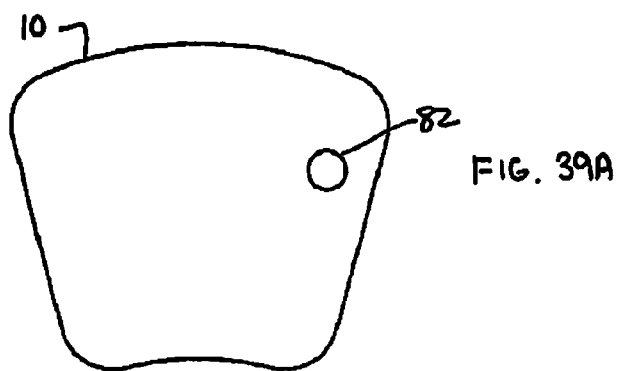


FIG. 39B

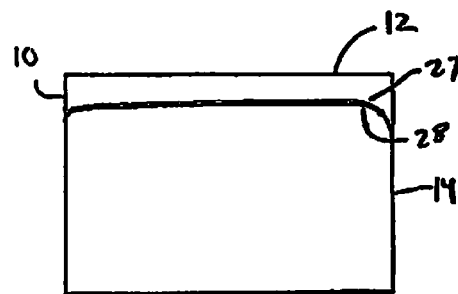


FIG. 39C

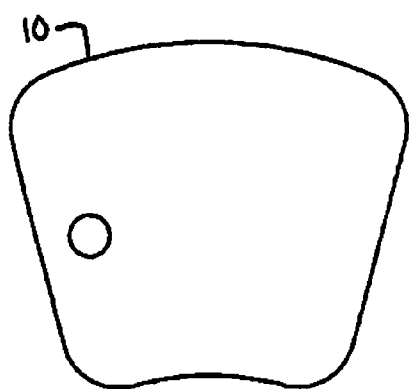


FIG. 40A

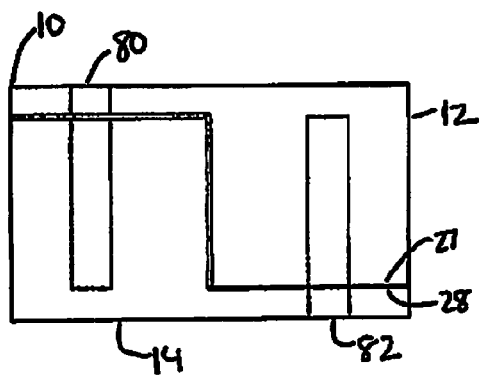


FIG. 40B

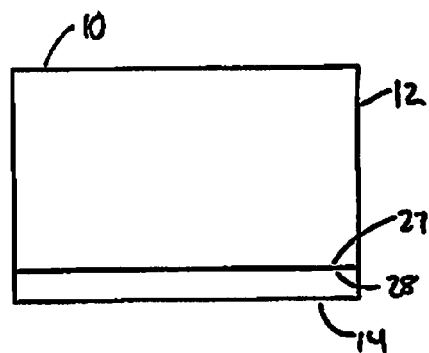
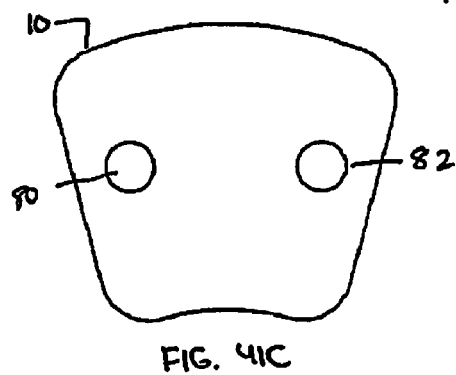
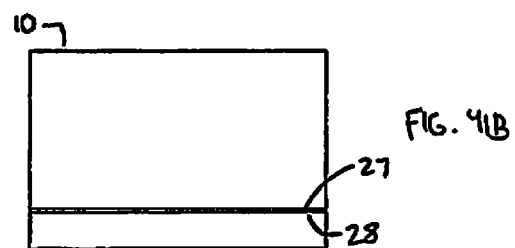
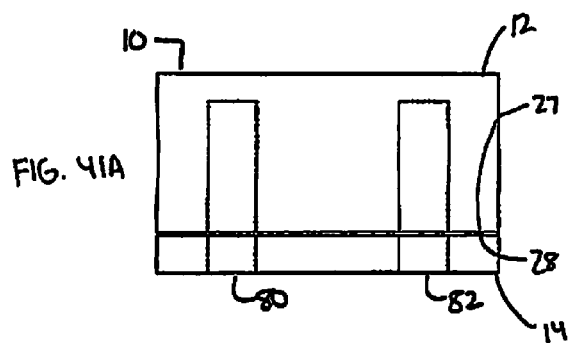


FIG. 40C





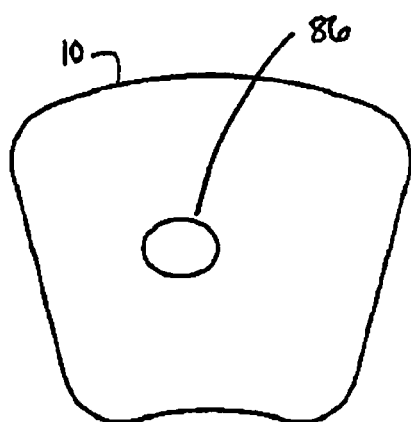


FIG. 42A

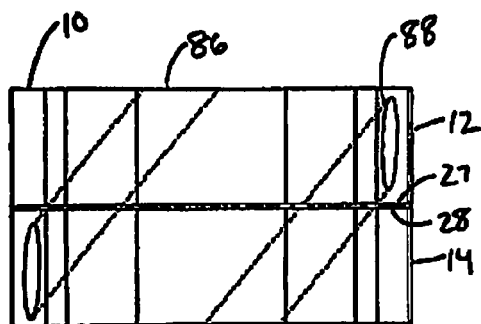


FIG. 42B

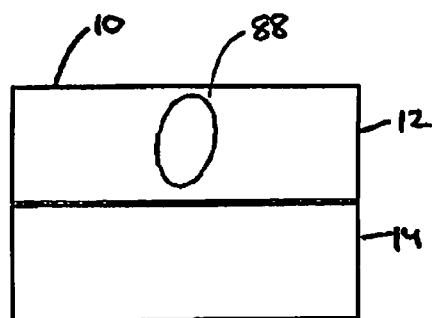


FIG. 42C

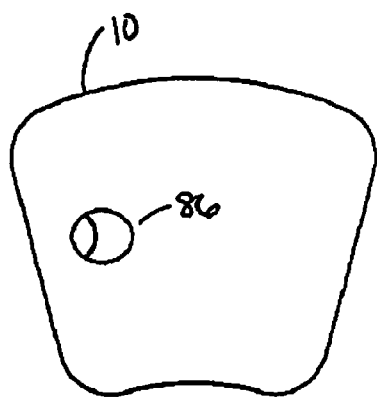


FIG. 43A

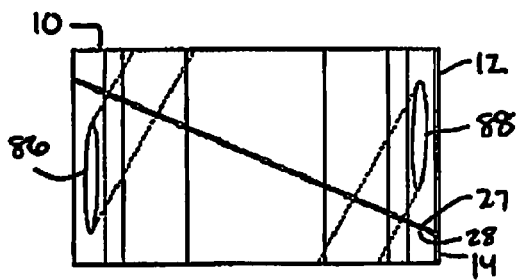


FIG. 43B

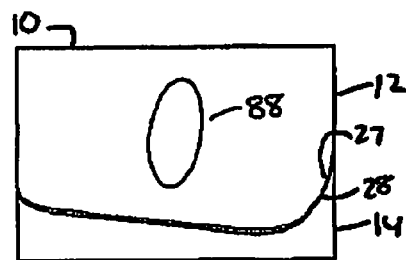


FIG. 43C

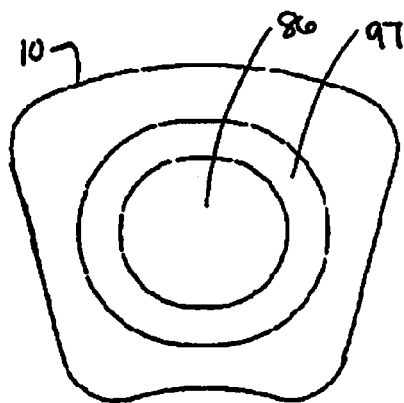


FIG. 44A

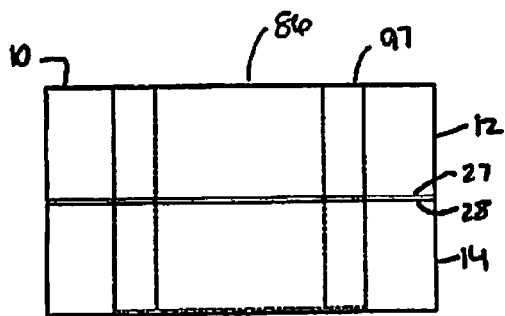


FIG. 44B

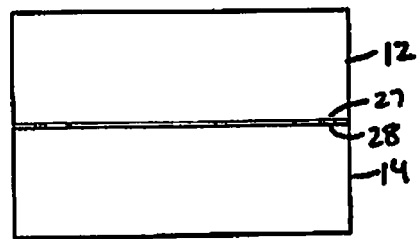


FIG. 44C

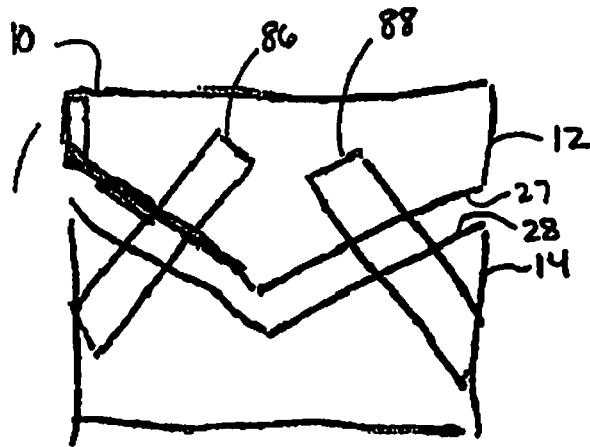


FIG. 45

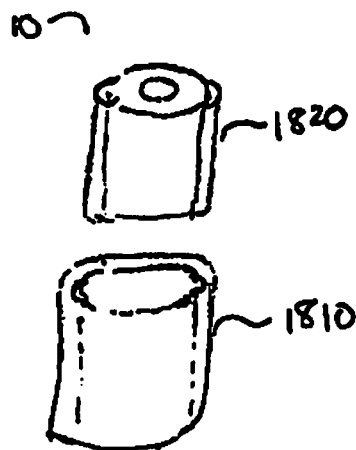


FIG. 46

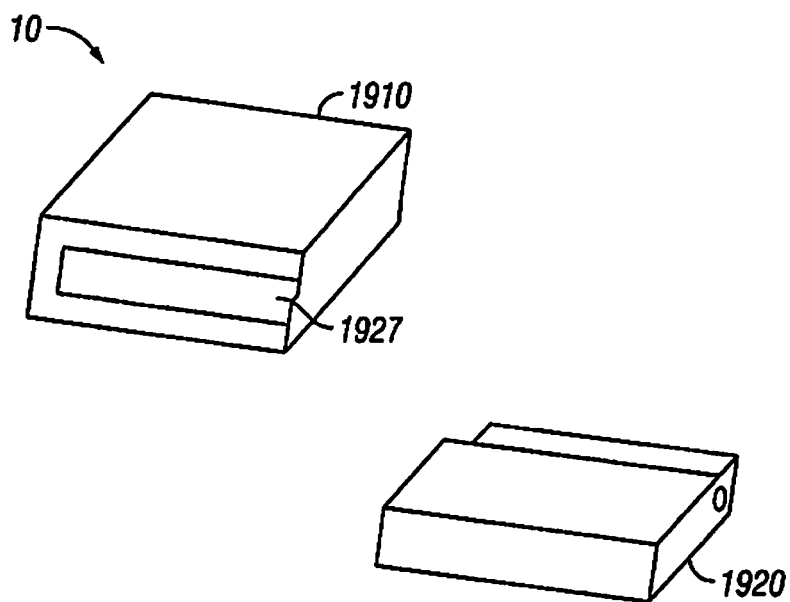


FIG. 47

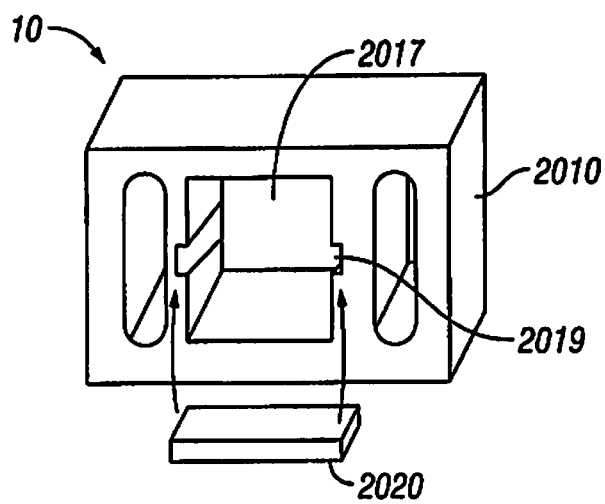


FIG. 48

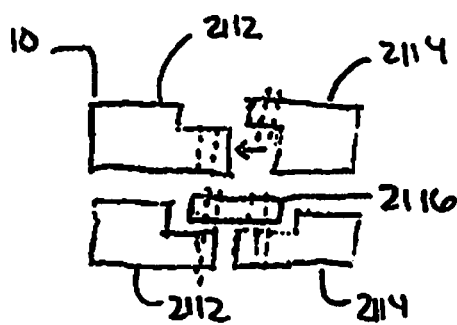


FIG. 49A

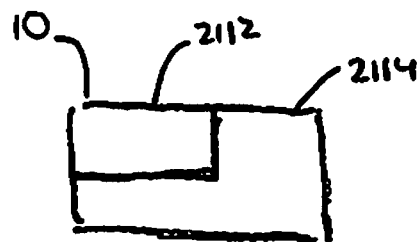


FIG. 49B

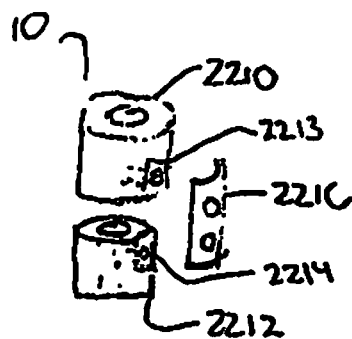


FIG. 50

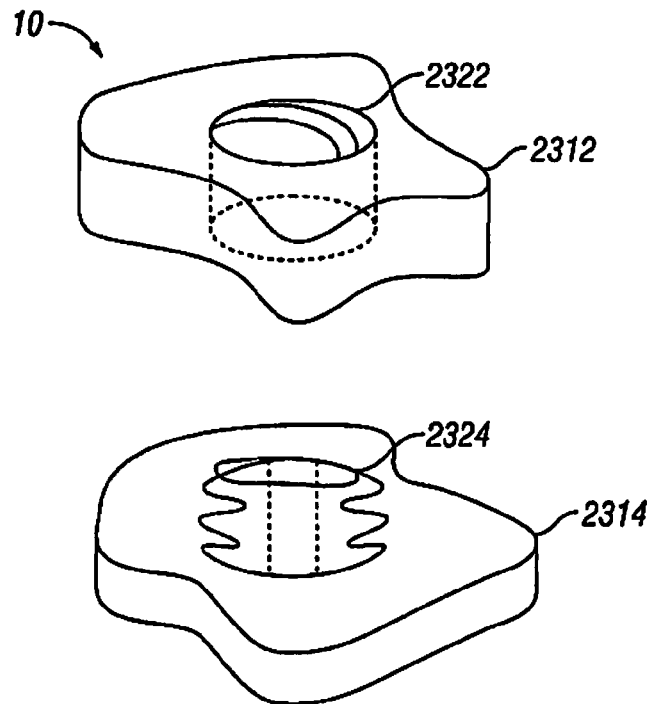


FIG. 51

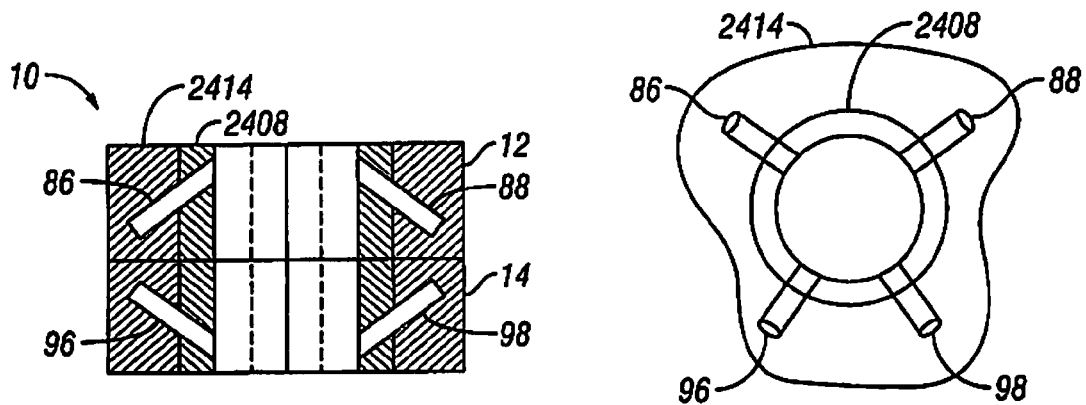


FIG. 52A

FIG. 52B



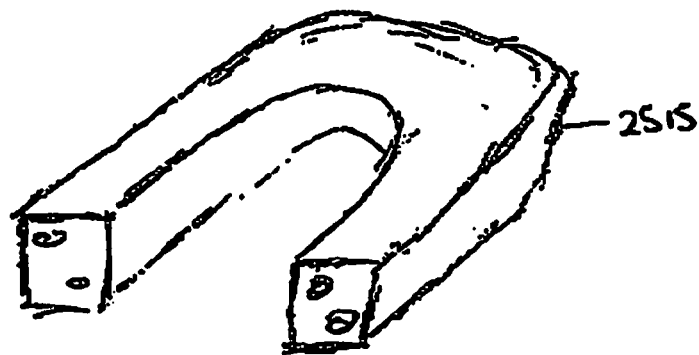


FIG. 53

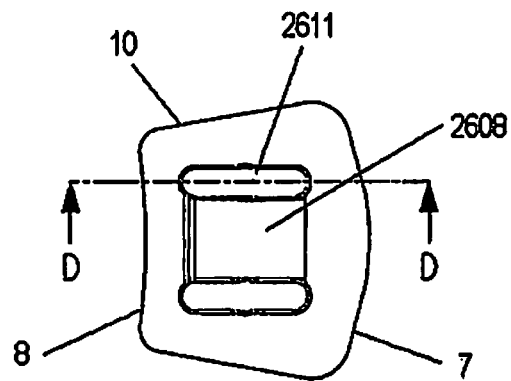


FIG. 54A

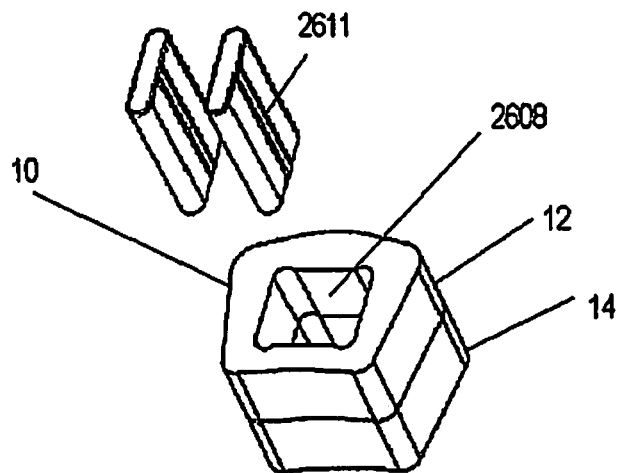


FIG. 54B

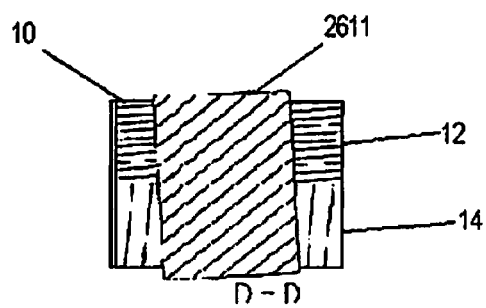


FIG. 54C

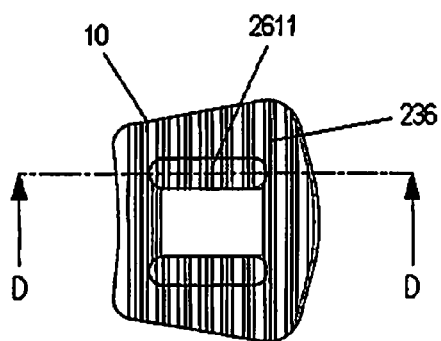


FIG. 55A

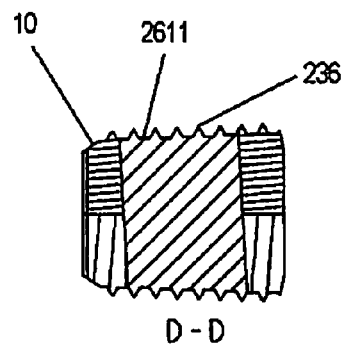


FIG. 55B

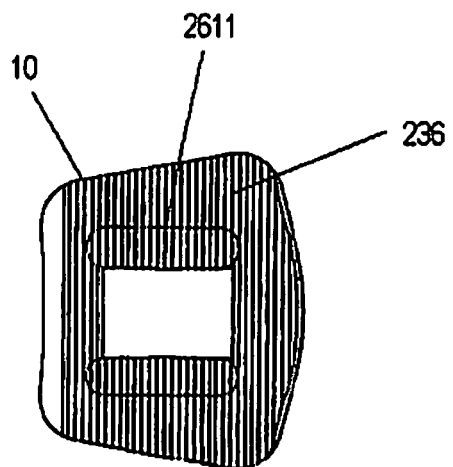


FIG. 56A

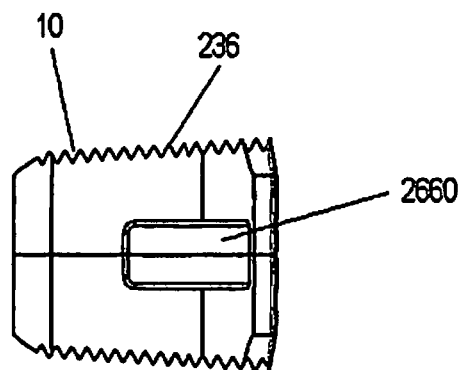


FIG. 56B

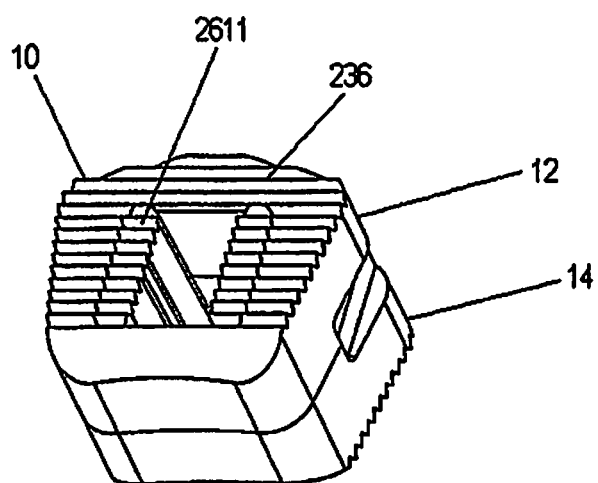


FIG. 56C

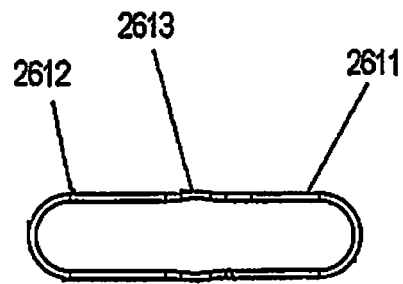
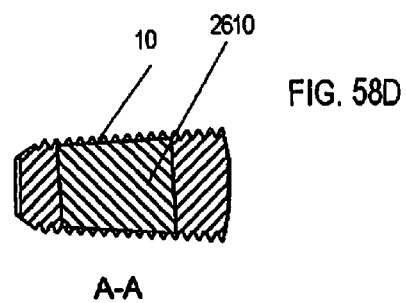
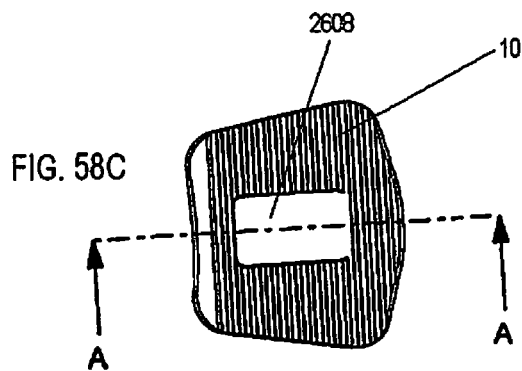
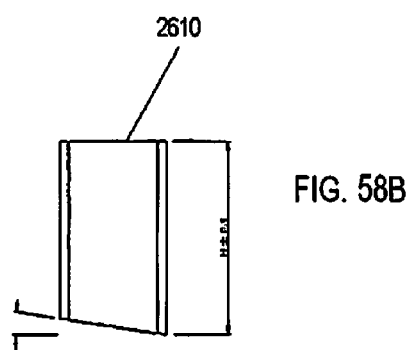
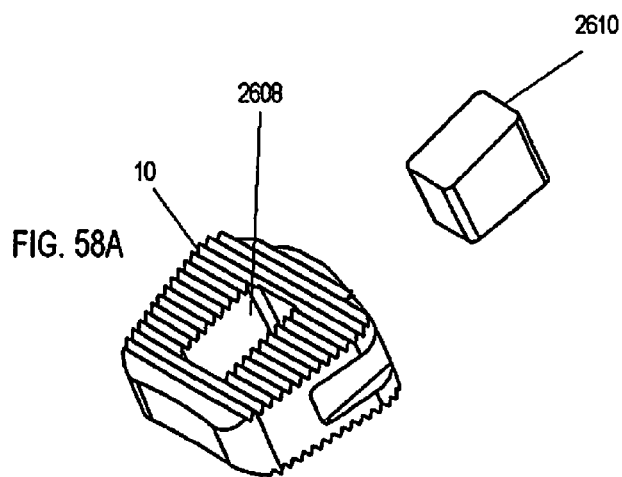


FIG. 57



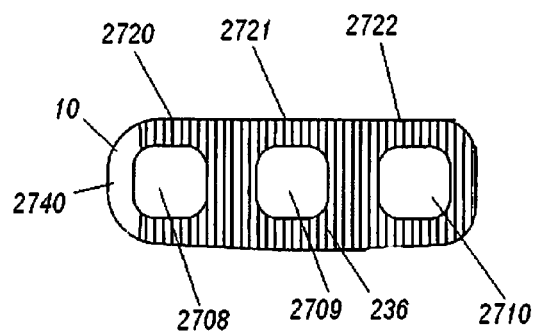


FIG. 59A

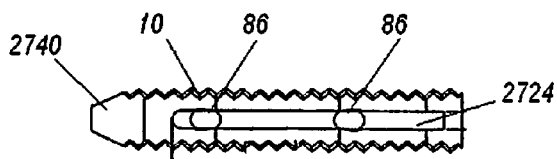


FIG. 59B

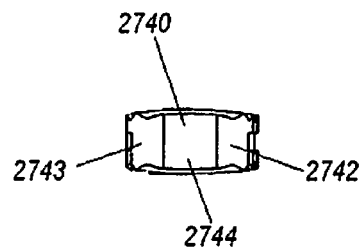


FIG. 59C



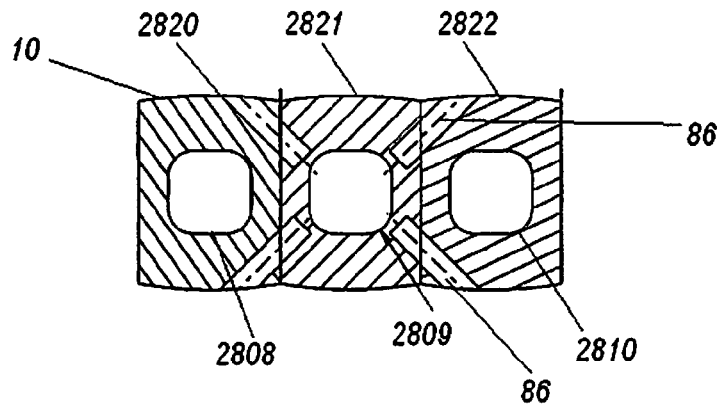


FIG. 60A

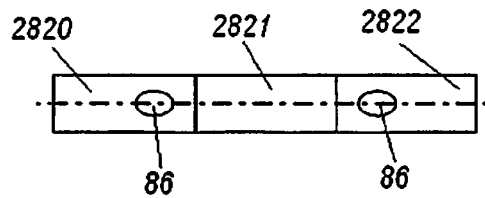


FIG. 60B

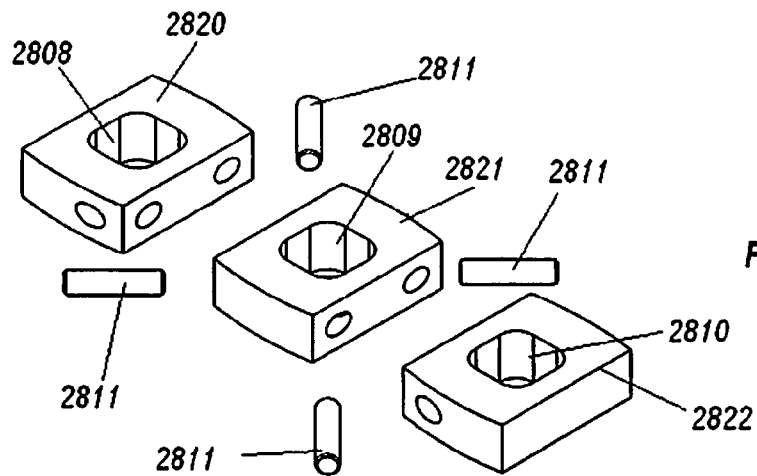


FIG. 60C

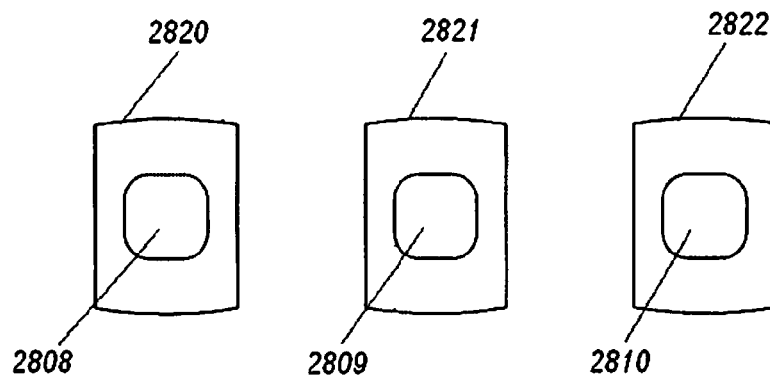


FIG. 60D

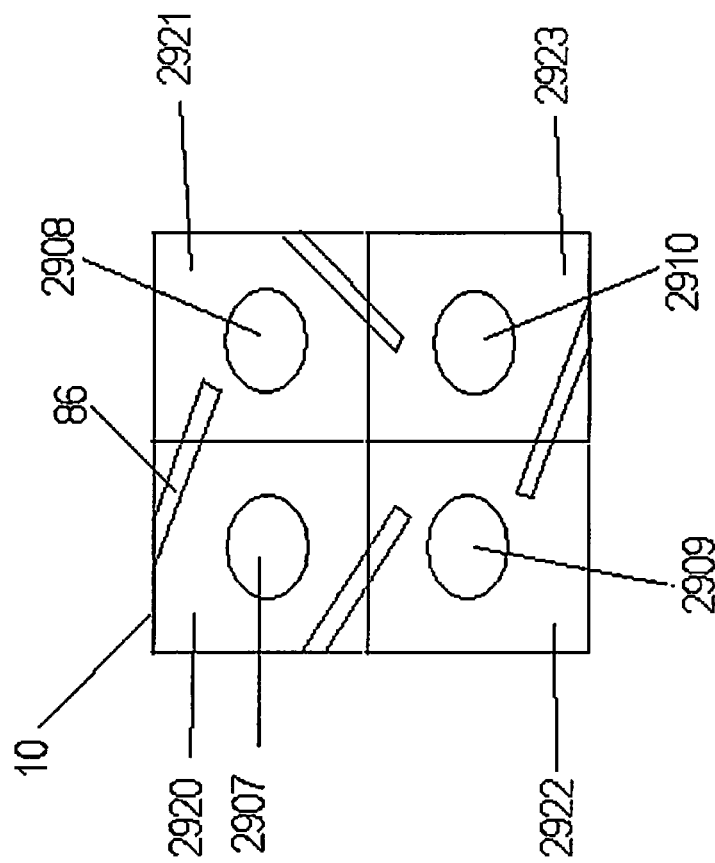


FIG. 61

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**MULTI-PIECE INTERVERTEBRAL  
IMPLANTS****CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED  
APPLICATIONS**

This patent application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/559,917, filed Jul. 27, 2012, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 13/267,119, filed Oct. 6, 2011, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application 61/535,726, filed on Sep. 16, 2011, the entire contents of which are incorporated by reference.

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention is generally directed to intervertebral implants and in particular, spacers for introducing into an intervertebral space.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Spinal fusion procedures are performed to alleviate pain caused by trauma, disc herniation or spondylosis. In some procedures, portions of a spinal disc can be removed and replaced by an intervertebral implant designed to assist in the fusion process. There thus is a need for improved intervertebral implants that can be inserted into an intervertebral space between two vertebrae.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Various embodiments of intervertebral implants are provided. In some embodiments, an intervertebral implant comprises a first layer having a superior surface for contacting a vertebral body and a second layer having an inferior surface for contacting a vertebral body. The second layer is operably attached to the first layer. The implant further comprises a bore hole that extends through at least a portion of the first layer and the second layer, wherein the bore hole has a first opening that opens at one of either the superior surface of the first layer or the inferior surface of the second layer and a second opening that is blocked by one of either the first layer or the second layer.

In other embodiments, an intervertebral implant comprises a first layer having a superior surface for contacting a vertebral body and a second layer having an inferior surface for contacting a vertebral body. The second layer is operably attached to the first layer to form a single-bodied implant. The implant further comprises a bore hole that extends through at least a portion of the first layer and the second layer, wherein the bore hole has a first opening that opens at one of either the superior surface of the first layer or the inferior surface of the second layer and a second opening that opens at a sidewall of the single-bodied implant formed by the first layer and the second layer.

In other embodiments, an intervertebral implant comprises a first layer having a first upper surface for contacting a vertebral body and a first lower surface opposite the first upper surface. The first lower surface includes one or more stepped features. The implant further comprises a second layer having a second lower surface for contacting a vertebral body and a second upper surface opposite the second lower surface. The second upper surface includes one or more stepped features that complement the first lower surface of the first layer when the first layer and second layer are pressed

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together. In addition, the implant comprises a bore hole that extends through at least a portion of the first layer and the second layer.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The invention will be more readily understood with reference to the embodiments thereof illustrated in the attached figures, in which:

FIG. 1 is a front perspective view of a multi-layered implant having flat faces and vertical bore holes formed therein according to some embodiments.

FIG. 2 is front perspective view of a multi-layered implant having flat faces and diagonal bore holes formed therein according to some embodiments.

FIG. 3 is a top perspective view of a layer of a multi-layered implant having a face with a waffle pattern according to some embodiments.

FIG. 4 is a top perspective view of a complementary layer to the layer in FIG. 3 according to some embodiments.

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of a multi-layered implant having layers with mated waffle faces according to some embodiments.

FIG. 6 is a top perspective view of a layer of a multi-layered implant having block features according to some embodiments.

FIG. 7 is a top perspective view of a complementary layer to the layer in FIG. 6 according to some embodiments.

FIG. 8 is a cross-sectional view of a multi-layered implant having block features and diagonal bore holes formed therein according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 9A and 9B illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant having layers with interlocking curved faces according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 10A-10C illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant having a mating interface comprising waffle-pattern features according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 11A-11C illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant having a mating interface comprising geometrical inserts according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 12A-12C illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant including horizontal bore holes according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 13A-13C illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant including diagonal bore holes according to some embodiments.

FIG. 14 is a top perspective view of a layer of a multi-layered implant having receiving windows according to some embodiments.

FIG. 15 is top perspective view of a complementary layer to the layer in FIG. 14.

FIG. 16 illustrates different views of a multi-layered implant including a layer with a mating face including angled protrusions according to some embodiments.

FIG. 17 is a top perspective view of a layer of a multi-layered implant comprising block features according to some embodiments.

FIG. 18 is a top perspective view of a complementary layer to the layer in FIG. 17.

FIG. 19 is a cross-sectional view of a multi-layered implant having diagonal bore holes formed therein.

FIGS. 20A-20D illustrate different views of an implant having teeth according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 21A-21D illustrate different views of an alternative implant having teeth according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 22A-22D illustrate different views of an alternative implant having teeth according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 23A-23E illustrate different views of an alternative implant having teeth according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 24A-24E illustrate different views of an alternative implant having teeth according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 25A-25E illustrate different views of an alternative implant having teeth according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 26A-26D illustrate different views of an implant having ridges according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 27A-27E illustrate different views of an alternative implant having ridges according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 28A-28E illustrate different views of an alternative implant having ridges according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 29A-29E illustrate different views of an alternative implant having ridges according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 30A-30F illustrate different views of an alternative implant having ridges according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 31A-31F illustrate different views of an alternative implant having ridges according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 32A-32C illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant having various mating features according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 33A-33C illustrate different views of an alternative multi-layered implant having various mating features according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 34A-34C illustrate different views of an alternative multi-layered implant having various mating features according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 35A-35C illustrate different views of an alternative multi-layered implant having various mating features according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 36A-36C illustrate different views of an alternative multi-layered implant having various mating features according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 37A-37C illustrate different views of an alternative multi-layered implant having various mating features according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 38A-38C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant having a pair of bore holes.

FIGS. 39A-39C illustrate some embodiments of an alternative multi-piece implant having a pair of bore holes.

FIGS. 40A-40C illustrate some embodiments of an alternative multi-piece implant having a pair of bore holes.

FIGS. 41A-41C illustrate some embodiments of an alternative multi-piece implant having a pair of bore holes.

FIGS. 42A-42C illustrate some embodiments of an alternative multi-piece implant having a pair of bore holes.

FIGS. 43A-43C illustrate some embodiments of an alternative multi-piece implant having a pair of bore holes.

FIGS. 44A-44C illustrate some embodiments of multi-piece implant having an inner concentric member.

FIG. 45 is a cross-sectional view of a multi-piece implant having a pair of bore holes according to some embodiments.

FIG. 46 illustrates a multi-piece implant having concentric components according to some embodiments.

FIG. 47 illustrates a multi-piece implant having an insertable component according to some embodiments.

FIG. 48 illustrates an alternative multi-piece implant having an insertable component according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 49A and 49B illustrate different embodiments of a multi-piece implant having components with engaging surfaces.

FIG. 50 illustrates a multi-piece implant having a connecting plate member according to some embodiments.

FIG. 51 illustrates a multi-piece implant having threaded components according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 52A and 52B illustrate a multi-piece implant having a concentric inner member according to some embodiments.

FIG. 53 illustrates an insertable member of a multi-piece implant according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 54A-54C illustrate an implant having shims according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 55A and 55B illustrate an alternative implant having shims according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 56A-56C illustrate an alternative implant having shims according to some embodiments.

FIG. 57 illustrates a shim according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 58A-58D illustrate an alternative implant for receiving a plug according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 59A-59D illustrate an alternative implant assembled from two or more members in series according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 60A-60D illustrate an alternative implant assembled from two or more members in series according to some embodiments.

FIG. 61 illustrates an alternative implant assembled from two or more members in series and in a stacked configuration according to some embodiments.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATED EMBODIMENTS

Embodiments of the invention will now be described. The following detailed description of the invention is not intended to be illustrative of all embodiments. In describing embodiments of the present invention, specific terminology is employed for the sake of clarity. However, the invention is not intended to be limited to the specific terminology so selected. It is to be understood that each specific element includes all technical equivalents that operate in a similar manner to accomplish a similar purpose.

The present application describes intervertebral implants that are configured to be implanted in an intervertebral space between two vertebrae. The implants can comprise one or more spacers, cages, wedges, rings, etc. that are insertable into a disc space. The implants can remain in the intervertebral space for an extended period of time and can assist in interbody fusion processes.

In some embodiments, the intervertebral implants comprise single-piece or multi-piece spacers. The multi-piece spacers can include two, three, four or more layers that are placed horizontally, vertically, or in any orientation relative to one another. The spacers can be formed of a number of different types of materials, including various metals such as titanium and stainless steel, metallic alloys, polymers such as PEEK and combinations thereof. In other embodiments, the spacers are formed of a bone-material, either natural or synthetic. In some embodiments, the bone-material can include allograft bone, autograft bone, xenograft bone or combinations thereof. The material for such allograft spacers can be taken, for example, from a diaphysis of a long bone.

FIGS. 1-19 illustrate various embodiments of multi-piece spacers having layers with multiple features according to some embodiments. While the different layers of material can be held together using an adhesive, in most of the illustrated embodiments, a fixation device, such as a screw, pin or interference fit device is used to secure the layers together. In some embodiments, the fixation device can be inserted into a bore hole formed through one or more layers of the implant.

FIG. 1 illustrates a multi-piece implant 10 comprised of two layers 12, 14 of material. Each of the layers 12, 14 has a mating face 22, 24. Both mating face 22 and 24 are illustrated as flat. When the two layers 12, 14 are pressed and secured

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together, they form an intervertebral implant that can be inserted into a vertebral space. In some embodiments, additional layers can be attached to layers **12**, **14**, thereby forming an implant with more than two layers. The advantage of having multi-piece implants is that the implants can be sized

Each of the layers **12**, **14** has two vertical bore holes **80**, **82** formed therein. Layer **12** has vertical bore holes **80a**, **82a**, while layer **14** has vertical bore holes **80b**, **82b**. The vertical bore holes **80a**, **82a** in layer **12** correspond with and align with the vertical bore holes **80b**, **82b** in the other layer **14**, thereby forming the two continuous bore holes **80**, **82** through the implant. The bore holes **80**, **82** are configured to receive a fixation device, such as a pin or screw, to secure the first layer **12** to the second layer **14**. For purposes of this application, the term “bore hole” can refer to a bore hole through a single layer, or a continuous bore hole formed by multiple bore holes formed through multiple layers.

The bore holes **80**, **82** in FIG. **1** extend from a superior face **5** (e.g., the top surface of representative layer A) to an inferior face **6** (e.g., the bottom surface of representative layer B). Each of these faces **5**, **6** are configured to contact a vertebral body, such as an adjacent superior and inferior vertebral body. In other embodiments, the bore holes **80**, **82** need not extend all the way through a superior face **5** and an inferior face **6**. For example, the bore holes can be blind bore holes, in which at least one side of the bore hole is blocked or enclosed, as shown in FIG. **32B**. In other words, for a blind bore hole, at least one of the openings is covered or enclosed. Alternatively, the bore holes can extend from a top or bottom surface into a side surface, such they will not extend completely through from a superior face to an inferior face, as shown in FIG. **42**.

FIG. **2** also illustrates a multi-piece implant **10** comprised of two layers **12**, **14**, of material. While the multi-piece implant **10** has flat faces, as in the previously described implant, the implant **10** in FIG. **2** includes two diagonal bore holes **86**, **88** instead of two vertical bore holes. The two diagonal bore holes **86**, **88** are formed from bore holes **86a**, **88a** in layer **12** that extend continuously with the bore holes **86b**, **88b** in layer **14**. As shown in FIG. **2**, the bore holes **86**, **88** extend through the implant from a superior face **5** to an inferior face **6**. In other embodiments, the bore holes can extend through an implant from a posterior face to an anterior face, or through an implant from a first sidewall to a second sidewall.

FIG. **3** illustrates a single layer **12** of a multi-piece implant **10** having vertical bore holes **80**, **82** and a mating face **8** comprising a waffle-pattern. The vertical bore holes **80**, **82** are configured to receive a fixation device for securing the layer to a second layer **14**, shown in FIG. **4**.

As shown in FIG. **3**, the layer **12** can include a mating face **33** that includes a plurality of square or rectangular protrusions **38**. The protrusions **38** form a waffle-pattern on the face **33** that is capable of mating with a complementary face **36** of another layer **14**, as shown in FIG. **4**. In other embodiments, the protrusions **38** are not square or rectangular, but are of various other shapes, such as tear-shaped or trapezoidal.

FIG. **4** illustrates a layer **14** that is complementary to the layer **12**. The layer **14** includes a complementary face **36** that also includes square or rectangular protrusions **38**. The protrusions **38** in the first layer **12** fit into the voids formed between the protrusions **38** in the second layer **12**, thereby forming an interlocking implant. In other words, the waffle pattern on the mating face **36** of layer D is configured to fit and

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complement the waffle pattern on the mating face **33** of layer C, thereby forming a two layer spacer that can be inserted into an intervertebral space. As shown in FIGS. **3** and **4**, vertical pin holes **80**, **82** can extend through the implant **10**.

The waffle pattern on the layer can mate with one or more complementary patterns on other layers, such that two layers can be conveniently mated. As shown in FIG. **3**, the waffle pattern is formed of square and/or rectangular formations that have edges. However, in other embodiments, the waffle pattern can be formed by other formations of different geometrical shapes, such as triangular protrusions.

FIG. **5** is a cross-sectional view of a multi-layered implant **10** having layers **12**, **14** with mated waffle faces according to some embodiments. Layer **12** includes a mating face **33** with square or rectangular protrusions that complements the mating face **33** of layer **14**. As shown in FIG. **5**, the multi-layered implant **10** includes diagonal bore holes **86**, **88** for receiving one or more fixation devices.

FIG. **6** illustrates a layer **12** of a multi-piece implant **10** having two vertical bore holes **80**, **82**. The layer in FIG. **6** includes a mating face **33** having protruding features comprising multiple block features **39** in parallel to one another. Advantageously, the blocks **39** extend from one side of the implant to another, thereby forming a mating surface that is continuous throughout a length of the side of the implant. While the blocks **39** are illustrated as being of similar size and evenly distributed, in other embodiments, the blocks **39** can be of different size and or distributed unevenly along the length of the spacer.

FIG. **7** illustrates a layer **14** of a multi-piece implant designed to correspond and mate with the layer **12** in FIG. **6**. The representative layer F in FIG. **7** includes a mating face **37** having multiple block features **39** in parallel that is designed to interlock with the layer in FIG. **6**. The layer in FIG. **7** also includes two vertical bore holes that are designed to match with the vertical bore holes in FIG. **6** to form two continuous bore holes that extend through implant **10**.

FIG. **8** illustrates a cross-sectional view of a multi-piece implant **10** formed of two layers **12**, **14**. Each of the layers **12**, **14** has a face including a plurality of block features **39**, as shown in FIGS. **6** and **7**. The two layers **12**, **14** include a pair of diagonal bore holes **86**, **88** that extend through the implant.

FIGS. **9A** and **9B** illustrate different views of a multi-piece implant **10** formed of two interlocking layers **12**, **14** according to some embodiments. Layer **12** includes a shaped “dove-tail” groove **42** designed to receive a complementary mating feature **44** protruding from a surface of layer **14**. Advantageously, the mating feature **44** is curved, which helps to securely interlock layer **14** into layer **12**, thereby forming a secure implant.

As shown in the figures, a pair of bore holes can be formed through the implant **10**. The bore holes can be vertical bore holes **80**, **82**, as in FIG. **9A**, or diagonal bore holes **86**, **88**, as in FIG. **9B**. In other embodiments, combinations of vertical and diagonal bore holes are also possible.

FIGS. **10A-10C** illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant having a mating interface comprising waffle-pattern features according to some embodiments. FIG. **10A** illustrates an upper layer **12** having a bottom mating face comprised of a plurality of square or rectangular protrusions **38** with grooves in between that form a waffle-pattern. FIG. **10B** illustrates a lower layer **14** having an upper mating face including square or rectangular protrusions **38** and grooves in between that is designed to complement the mating face of the upper layer **12**. The multi-layered implant can include verti-

cal bore holes **80**, **82**, as shown in FIGS. **10A** and **10B**, or diagonal bore holes, as shown in FIG. **10C**, for receiving a fixation member.

FIGS. **11A-11C** illustrate different views of one or more layers of a multi-layered implant **10** having a mating interface comprising geometrical inserts according to some embodiments. FIG. **11A** illustrates representative layer **1<sub>b</sub>**, which includes a mating face **33** having one or more cylindrical inserts **52** protruding from a surface. The cylindrical inserts **52** can be inserted into apertures **53** of a corresponding mating face, as shown in FIG. **11B**. The cylindrical inserts advantageously serve as pegs that help to maintain and secure the multiple layers of the multi-layered implant together before and during implant.

FIG. **11C** illustrates an alternative layer **12** of a multi-layered implant **10** having a mating interface comprising differently shaped geometrical inserts **38**. The geometrical inserts **38** resemble square or rectangular features (similar to that shown in FIG. **4**), and can be inserted into one or more apertures on a face of a complementary layer. As shown in FIG. **11C**, the layer **12** also includes one or more block features **39** that extend along a height of the layer **12**. By combining different engaging features, such as the geometrical inserts **38** and the block features **39**, this strengthens the ability to interlock two layers of a multi-layered implant, thereby helping to secure the implant during use.

FIGS. **12A-12C** illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant including horizontal bore holes according to some embodiments. FIG. **12A** illustrates a layer **12** having one or more horizontal bore holes **94**, **96** that can be axially aligned with one or more horizontal bore holes **94**, **96** in a complementary layer **14** (shown in FIG. **12B**). The mating face **33** of layer **12** also comprises a plurality of channels or grooves **40** that are designed to receive complementary features (e.g., block features **39**) that protrude from the mating face **37** of layer **14**.

FIG. **12C** illustrates a cross-sectional view of an implant **10** having two layers **12**, **14** mated together and including horizontal bore holes **94**, **96**. The horizontal bore holes **94**, **96** extend from an anterior side **7** to a posterior side **8** of the implant **10**.

FIGS. **13A-13C** illustrate different views of a multi-layered implant including diagonal bore holes **98**, **99** according to some embodiments. The diagonal bore holes **98**, **99** extend from an anterior face **7** to a posterior face **8**. As shown in FIG. **13A**, the multi-layered implant can include a first layer **12** having a first mating face **33** including one or more grooves for mating with a second mating face **36** of a second layer **14** having one or more protruding features. Alternatively, as shown in FIG. **13B**, the multi-layered implant **10** can include a first layer **12** having a flat mating face **22** and a second layer **14** having a flat mating face **24** that form an interface. In yet another embodiment, as shown in FIG. **13C**, the multi-layered implant **10** can include a first layer **12** having a first mating face with a block feature **39** that is capable of being inserted into a groove **40** formed in a second mating face of a second layer **14**.

FIG. **14** is a top perspective view of a layer **12** of a multi-layered implant **10** having receiving windows **104** according to some embodiments. The receiving windows **104** are configured to receive one or more protruding features from a corresponding layer (not shown). Advantageously, the windows **104** have a sufficient height and width to accommodate a number of differently shaped protruding features. For example, while the windows **104** are rectangular shaped and can accommodate complimentary rectangular features, the windows **104** can also accommodate one or more cylindrical

features. As shown in FIG. **14**, the layer **12** also include vertical bore holes **80**, **82** and a horizontal bore hole **101** that extends along a length of its longitudinal axis. The combination of different oriented bore holes advantageously allows for fixation members (e.g., pins) to be placed in the most desirable areas to support the mating of the different layers of the implant.

FIG. **15** is top perspective view of a complementary layer **14** to the layer **12** in FIG. **14**. Layer **14** includes two large rectangular inserts **106**, **108** that can fit within the windows **102**, **104** of the layer **14**. The sides of the inserts **106**, **108** can be flush against the sidewalls of the windows **102**, **104**. As shown in FIG. **15**, layer **14** can include a horizontal bore hole **94** that is aligned along a length of a width of the layer **14**.

FIG. **16** illustrates different views of a multi-layered implant **10** including a layer **12** with a mating face including protruding angled features **111** according to some embodiments. The protruding angled features **111** can fit into grooves **40** that are formed in a second layer **14**, thereby forming a secure implant. In some embodiments, the grooves **40** are angled to complement the angled features **111**. In other embodiments, the grooves **40** are not angled and simply receive and maintain the angled features **111** therein.

FIG. **17** is a top perspective view of a layer **12** of a multi-layered implant **10** comprising block features **39** according to some embodiments. The block features **39** are configured to be received in grooves **40** formed in a complementary layer **14** (shown in FIG. **18**).

FIG. **18** is a top perspective view of a complementary layer **14** to the layer in FIG. **17**. Layer **14** includes a plurality of grooves **40** for receiving the block features **39**. In addition, as shown in FIG. **18**, the vertical bore holes **80**, **82** need not be symmetrical along the width of the layer **14** body. One vertical bore hole **80** extends through a groove **40**, while the other vertical bore hole **82** extends through a wall adjacent to the groove **40**.

FIG. **19** is a cross-sectional view of a multi-layered implant **10** having two layers **12**, **14** with diagonal bore holes **86**, **88** formed therein. The diagonal bore holes **86**, **88** extend through the interface formed by two faces of layers **12**, **14**.

FIGS. **20A-31F** illustrate different implants having superior and/or inferior faces with surface features, such as teeth or ribs. While such implants are illustrated as being single-bodied, in some embodiments, the spacers are multi-pieced and can include any of the mating features/bore-holes described above. In addition, in some embodiments, the superior and inferior faces can be straight and substantially parallel to one another. In other embodiments, the superior and/or inferior faces can be curved (e.g., convex or concave). In addition, in some embodiments, each of the illustrated implants can have bodies that are angled to reflect the natural lordosis in a spine. In some embodiments, the implant bodies have angles between 2 degrees and 50 degrees, or 1 degree and 25, degrees relative to an axis that runs through the body of the implant, such as a midplane.

FIGS. **20A-20D** illustrate different views of an implant **200** having teeth **232** according to some embodiments. The implant **200** can be inserted, for example, in the cervical area of a spine. The implant **200** includes a concave surface **206** in opposition to a convex surface **204** separated by a pair of sidewalls **208**, **209**. The implant **200** includes a superior face **216** and an opposing inferior face **218**, which are substantially parallel. In other embodiments, the superior face **216** and/or inferior face **218** can be curved or angled such that the two faces are not substantially parallel.

The superior and/or inferior faces **216**, **218** can include a plurality of teeth **232** for providing a friction surface against

adjacent vertebrae. In some embodiments, the teeth **232** of similar height, while in other embodiments, the teeth **232** can have varying height across the body of the implant. The teeth can be three-sided, four-sided, six-sided or any other geometrical configuration. In some embodiments, the teeth are saw-tooth shape and include at least one surface that is substantially perpendicular to a surface of the implant.

A central hole **219** can be formed in the body of the implant **200** to receive a plug **210**, such as in FIG. **20B**. While the central hole **219** is illustrated as being circular, in other embodiments, the central hole **219** is square, rectangular, trapezoidal, tear shaped, or any other shape. In some embodiments, the central hole **219** has a geometry including one or more edges. In some embodiments, the implant **200** body can be formed of cortical material, while the inner plug **210** can be formed of cancellous material.

As shown in FIGS. **20B** and **20D**, the implant **200** can include one or more slots **260** configured to be grasped by an insertion instrument. While the slots **260** are formed on the sidewalls **208**, **209** of the implant **200**, in other embodiments, slots **260** can be formed on other parts of the implant body, such as on a superior **216** and/or inferior surface **218**.

In addition to the features discussed above, the implant **200** can include a leading edge **240**. In some embodiments, the leading edge **240** serves as distraction surface that helps to distract one or more vertebral bodies while the implant **200** is inserted into a disc space. In some embodiments, the leading edge **240** comprises smooth, tooth-free zones that are formed on the superior **216** and/or inferior surface **218** of the implant **200**. As shown in FIG. **20D**, the leading edge **240** can be angled or tapered such that the implant **200** is bullet-nose or wedge shaped.

FIGS. **21A-21D** illustrate different views of an alternative implant **300** having teeth **232** according to some embodiments. The implant **300** can be inserted, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via an anterior approach. The implant **300** can include two convex surfaces **332**, **334** with sidewalls **308**, **309** formed in between. The implant **300** further includes a superior surface **316** and an inferior surface **318**. As shown in FIG. **21B**, the superior surface **316** and/or the inferior surface **318** can have some slight curvature. In some embodiments, both the superior surface **316** and the inferior surface **318** include one or more teeth **232** to assist in providing a frictional zone against adjacent vertebral bodies.

As shown in FIG. **21A**, the implant **300** can include a central hole **319**. Unlike the central hole **219** in FIG. **20B**, the central hole **319** in the present implant **300** is not filled with a cancellous bone plug. In some embodiments, the central hole **319** can be configured to receive bone graft material, which can assist in spinal fusion in between two vertebrae.

In some embodiments, the implant **300** can also include a leading edge **340** which is formed at the convergence of the superior surface **316** and inferior surface **318**. The leading edge **340** can comprise smooth, tooth-free zones that serve to advantageously distract vertebral bodies during implantation. As shown in FIG. **21B**, leading edge **340** can be angled such that a portion of the implant **300** is bullet-nosed or wedge shaped.

In some embodiments, the implant **300** can also include slots **324** that are formed on the superior and/or inferior surfaces **316**, **318** of the implant. In some embodiments, an insertion instrument can be used to grip the slots **324**, thereby helping to facilitate the insertion of the implant in a vertebral space. In other embodiments, the slots **324** can receive one or more portions of a distraction instrument to assist in the distraction of adjacent vertebrae during implantation. In some embodiments, the insertion instrument can be an instrument

separate from a distraction instrument. In other embodiments, the insertion instrument can include a distractor function, and can advantageously distract vertebrae while simultaneously inserting an implant.

FIGS. **22A-22D** illustrate different views of an alternative implant **400** having teeth **232** according to some embodiments. The implant **400** can be inserted, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via a transforaminal approach. The implant includes a superior surface **416** and an inferior surface **418** that include teeth **232**. As shown in FIG. **22A**, the teeth need not extend entirely across the body of the implant **400**; rather, a tooth-free region can be formed around the teeth **232**. The implant **400** can include a convex surface **404** opposite a concave surface **406**. The convex surface **404** and concave surface **406** can be substantially parallel, while in other embodiments, the convex surface **404** and concave surface **406** are not substantially parallel. As shown in FIG. **22C**, the implant **400** can have a rectangular cross-sectional area.

In some embodiments, the implant **400** can include a slot **260**. The slot **260** can be formed on the convex surface **404** and/or concave surface **406**, and can be configured to receive an insertion instrument to assist in delivery of the implant into an intervertebral space. In addition, as in previously discussed implants, the implant **400** can include a tooth-free, leading edge **440**.

FIGS. **23A-23E** illustrate different views of an alternative implant **500** having teeth according to some embodiments. The implant **500** can be inserted, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via a posterior approach. The implant **500** can have a substantially flat superior surface **516** that opposes a substantially flat inferior surface **518**. In some embodiments, the implant **500** can be flat in a medial-lateral direction, but can include a radius of curvature in the anterior-posterior direction. Each of the superior surface **516** and/or inferior surface **518** can include teeth **232** for contacting vertebral bodies. As shown in FIG. **23C**, the implant **500** can also include a leading edge **540**.

As shown in FIGS. **23B** and **23C**, the implant **500** can include a large slot **560** for receiving a portion of an insertion instrument. In some embodiments, the slot **560** advantageously extends along a majority of the length of the implant **500**, thereby creating a large surface area for receiving a portion of an insertion instrument.

FIGS. **23D** and **23E** illustrate alternative rear views of the implant **500**. As shown in these figures, in some embodiments, a posterior portion of the implant **500** can have angled, tapered surfaces **582** that converge at a flat face **590**. In some embodiments, the posterior face **590** can have a length and height that is substantially different from the length and height of a face along an anterior portion of the implant **500**.

FIGS. **24A-24E** illustrate different views of an alternative implant **600** according to some embodiments. The implant **600** can be inserted, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via a posterior approach. The implant **600** shares many similar features as the implant in FIG. **23A**, including a superior face **616** and inferior face **618** including teeth **232**, a leading edge **640** that is angled, and a slot **660** that extends substantially along a majority of the length of the body of the implant **600**.

FIGS. **25A-25E** illustrate different views of an alternative implant **700** having teeth **232** according to some embodiments. The implant **700** can be inserted, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via a lateral approach. The implant includes a superior face **716** and an inferior face **718**, each including a plurality of teeth **232** formed thereon. As shown in FIG. **25C**, the superior face **716** and inferior face **718** can be substantially flat and planar, while in other embodiments, the

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superior face and/or inferior face can be curved. The implant 700 can also include a tooth-free, leading edge 740.

In some embodiments, the implant 700 can include a hole 719 extending from a superior face 716 to an inferior face 718, as shown in FIG. 25A. While the hole 719 is illustrated as a polygon having one or more curved or straight edges, in other embodiments, the hole 719 is round. As shown in FIG. 25A, the hole 719 can include two sidewalls 722 and 723 that extend along a majority of the length of the implant 700. By having such a lengthy hole, bone graft can advantageously be inserted and grow along a substantial portion of the implant, thereby aiding in bone fusion processes. In some embodiments, the two sidewalls 722, 723 substantially match the sidewalls of the implant 700.

In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 25E, implant 700 can include one or more slots 724 on a superior surface 716 and/or inferior surface 718. The slots 724 can be configured to receive one or more instruments, such as insertion or distraction instruments, to assist in the implantation of the implant 700.

In contrast to the implants in FIGS. 20A-25E, the implants in FIGS. 26A-31F include ribs or ridges, rather than teeth. These implants are now discussed.

FIGS. 26A-26D illustrate various embodiments of an implant 1200 having ridges 236. The implant 1200 can be inserted, for example, in a cervical region of the spine. The implant 1200 can include a convex surface 204 and a concave surface 206 with sidewalls therebetween.

The implant 1200 can include a plurality of ridges 236 formed on a superior surface 216 and/or inferior surface 218. In some embodiments, the ridges 236 are formed continuously across a surface of the implant 1200 (as shown in FIG. 26A), whereas in other embodiments, the ridges 236 are separated and have spaces in between. The implant 1200 can include a tapered leading edge 240, thereby forming a bullet-nose or wedge-shaped portion.

In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 26B, the convex surface 204 can comprise a posterior face having a height H2. The concave surface 206 can also comprise an anterior face having a similar height H2. One skilled in the art will appreciate that the convex surface 204 can also be considered an anterior face, while the posterior face can be considered an anterior face, depending on the position of a user relative to the spine. In other embodiments, the anterior face and posterior face of the implant 1200 can be of differing heights.

FIGS. 27A-27E illustrate various embodiments of an alternative implant 1300 having ridges 236. The implant can be inserted, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via an anterior approach. The implant 1300 includes a superior surface 1316 and an inferior surface 1318, each covered in part by one or more ridges 236. As shown in FIG. 27A, the implant 1300 can include a leading end 1340 which is smooth and not covered by ridges. In addition, the implant 1300 can include one or more slots 1324 that can be grasped by a distraction and/or insertion instrument to assist in inserting the implant into a vertebral space. The implant 1300 also includes a hole 1319 for receiving graft material. While the hole 1319 is illustrated as circular, in other embodiments, the hole 1319 is square, rectangular, trapezoidal or any other shape.

In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 27B, the superior surface 1316 and the inferior surface 1318 are substantially parallel. In other embodiments, the superior surface 1316 and/or the inferior surface 1318 can be partially curved and/or angled (lordotic), such that the two surfaces are not substantially parallel. In some embodiments, an anterior face of the implant 1300 can be of similar height H2 to a posterior face of the implant 1300, as shown in FIG. 27B.

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As shown in FIG. 27D, the ridges 236 formed on the implant can be substantially continuous. That is, there is a minimal if any gap or space between adjacent ridges. In other embodiments, the ridges 236 can be separated by a space and are not continuously formed.

FIGS. 28A-28E illustrate various embodiments of an alternative implant 1400 having ridges 236 that can be used, for example, in a lumbar region via a transforaminal approach. The implant 1400 includes a first sidewall 1404 that is opposite a second sidewall 1406. The first sidewall 1404 includes two concave surfaces 1414 and 1418. The second sidewall 1406 includes a third concave surface 1406. Advantageously, with the multiple concave surfaces, the implant 1400 is of a geometry that is desirable for different approaches, such as a transforaminal approach.

In addition to the features discussed above, the implant 1400 can also include one or more slots 1460 formed on one or more of the sidewalls 1404, 1406. The one or more slots 1460 can be grabbed by an insertion instrument.

FIGS. 29A-29E illustrate various embodiments of an alternative implant 1500 having ridges 236 that can be used, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via a posterior approach. The implant includes a pair of side channels 1560 for receiving an insertion instrument. Advantageously, as shown in FIG. 29A, the side channels 1560 can extend along a majority of the length of the implant 1500, thereby providing a large grasping area for the insertion instrument.

FIGS. 30A-30F illustrate various embodiments of an alternative implant 1600 having ridges 236 that can be used, for example, in a lumbar region of the spine via a posterior approach. The implant is similar to that shown in FIGS. 29A-29E, but includes a different footprint. While some of the embodiments illustrate an implant 1600 having a superior surface 1616 and an inferior surface 1618 that are parallel or minorly curved (FIG. 30B), other embodiments illustrate an implant 1600 having a superior surface 1616 and an inferior surface 1618 that are noticeably curved and form a lordotic structure (FIG. 30F).

FIGS. 31A-31F illustrate various embodiments of an implant 1700 having ridges 236 that can be used, for example, in a lumbar region via a lateral approach. In some embodiments, the implant can include two parallel sidewalls 1706 and 1708 (FIG. 31A), while in other embodiments, the implant can include a straight sidewall 1706 that opposed a convex sidewall 1708 (FIG. 31E). In addition, in some embodiments, the implant 1700 can have substantially parallel superior and inferior surfaces 1716, 1718 (FIG. 31D), while in other embodiments, the implant 1700 can have a lordotic angled surface (FIG. 31F).

FIGS. 32A-44 illustrate additional embodiments of multi-piece implant assemblies. These embodiments are now described and are meant only to be illustrative. For example, while the implant assemblies in FIGS. 32A-44 do not illustrate horizontal bore holes, these implants may also include these features.

FIGS. 32A-32C illustrate embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having angled and/or curved mating faces 27, 28. Layer 12 includes an angled mating face 27 that mates with angled mating face 28 of layer 14. Advantageously, by having complementary features, this helps to keep the two layers 12, 14 of the implant 10 together.

As shown in FIG. 32B, diagonal bore holes 86 and/or vertical bore holes 80 can be introduced through the implant 10. The bore holes can extend complete through the implant, from a superior surface to an inferior surface. Alternatively, the bore holes can be blind, wherein a side of the bore hole is blocked by a surface of one of the layers 12, 14. By having



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blind bore holes, this advantageously prevents inadvertent removal or back-out of fixation members that are inserted through the holes.

FIGS. 33A-33C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having zig-zagged mating faces 27, 28. Layer 12 includes a first zig-zagged mating face 27, while layer 14 includes a second zig-zagged mating face 28. As shown in FIG. 33C, each of the zig-zagged mating faces 27, 28 can include stepped features. The zig-zagged mating faces 27 and 28 complement each other, thereby helping to form a secure multi-piece implant.

As shown in FIG. 33B, the implant 10 can also include diagonal bore holes 86 and/or vertical bore holes 80 that extend across the interface of the two bodies 12 and 14. The bore holes 86 and 88 can extend completely through a superior surface to an inferior surface, or alternatively, can be blind bore holes as discussed above.

FIGS. 34A-34C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having curved mating faces 27, 28. As shown in the figures, the mating faces 27, 28 of the layers can be continuously curved without having any particular edge. The layers 12, 14 in the present embodiments can also include diagonal and/or vertical bore holes that are may or may not be blind.

FIGS. 35A-35C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having straight, jagged mating faces 27, 28. As shown in FIG. 35C, layer 12 can have a mating face 27 that is comprised of a single jagged step. Likewise, layer 14 can have a mating face 28 that is comprised of a complementary jagged step such that when layer 14 is pressed against layer 12, the two layers form a multi-piece implant. As in previously discussed embodiments, the implant 10 can include a variety of different bore holes that are continuous from a superior surface to an inferior surface, or blind.

FIGS. 36A-36C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having at least three layers 12, 14, 15 with flat mating faces. Layer 12 includes a flat mating face 27 that forms an interface with flat mating face 28 of layer 14, while layer 15 includes a flat mating face 30 that forms an interface with flat mating face 29 of layer 14. In other embodiments, less than three layers (e.g., two) or greater than three layers (e.g., four or five) having flat mating faces can form a similar multi-piece implant.

As shown in FIG. 36B, the multi-piece implant 10 can incorporate a bore hole such as vertical bore hole 80. In some embodiments, the bore hole 80 will not extend through either a superior face or an inferior face, but rather, can have two blind ends, as shown in FIG. 36B. Advantageously, by having two blind ends, the bore hole 80 will be able to fix the multiple layers together, but will be prevented from inadvertently backing out of the implant during use.

FIGS. 37A-37C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having layers with mating faces 27, 28 including a pair of exterior flats followed by a curved inner surface. As shown in FIG. 37A, layer 12 can include a mating face having a pair of exterior flats 31 and a curved inner surface 32 there between. Layer 14 can include a mating surface 28 that is complementary to the mating face 27, wherein it also includes flats and a curved inner surface. The multi-piece implant can include diagonal and vertical bore holes of different variations as shown in FIG. 37B.

FIGS. 38A-38C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having a pair of bore holes 80, 82. As shown in FIG. 38B, each of the bore holes 80, 82 is blind. Accordingly, from a top view, only one bore hole 80 is visible in the

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superior surface, as shown in FIG. 38A. The bores 80, 82 each cross the interface formed by the contacting mating faces 27 and 28.

FIG. 38B illustrates a cross-sectional view of the implant 10 according to some embodiments. As shown in this view, the interface between the layer 12 and layer 14 is a flat surface. However, in alternative views, as shown in the cross-sectional view of the implant 10 in FIG. 38C, the interface between layer 12 and layer 14 can also be curved in some portions.

FIGS. 39A-39C illustrate some embodiments of an alternative multi-piece implant 10 having a pair of bore holes 80, 82. As shown in FIG. 39B, each of the bore holes 80, 82 is blind. Accordingly, from a top view, only one bore hole 82 is visible in the superior surface, as shown in FIG. 39A. The bores 80, 82 each cross the interface formed by the contacting mating faces 27 and 28.

FIG. 39B illustrates a cross-sectional view of the implant 10 according to some embodiments. As shown in this view, the interface between the layer 12 and layer 14 is not only flat, but also includes some curvature. The curved features of the interface are also shown in FIG. 39C.

FIGS. 40A-40C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having a pair of bore holes 80, 82. The implant 10 is composed of two layers 12, 14. Each of the layers has a mating face 27, 28 that has a horizontally straight portion and a vertically straight portion, as shown in FIG. 40B. From a different cross-sectional view shown in FIG. 40C, the mating interface between layer 12 and layer 14 is flat.

FIGS. 41A-41C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having a pair of bore holes 80, 82. The implant is composed of two layers 12, 14, each having a flat mating face 27, 28. The implant 10 includes two vertical bore holes 80, 82.

FIGS. 42A-42C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having a pair of diagonal bore holes 86, 88. Both of the bore holes 86, 88 are blind in that they do not extend completely through an implant. The implant 10 includes two layers 12, 14 having flat mating faces 12, 14, as shown from different viewpoints in FIGS. 42B and 42C.

FIGS. 43A-43C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having a pair of diagonal bore holes 86, 88. In contrast to the previous embodiment, the current embodiment includes two layers 12, 14 having a mating interface that is angled, as shown in FIG. 43B. In addition, in some embodiments, portions of the mating interface can be curved, as shown in FIG. 43C.

FIGS. 44A-44C illustrate some embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having an inner concentric member 97. As shown in FIG. 44A, the implant 10 is comprised of two separate layers 12 and 14. Each of the layers 12 and 14 includes an inner hole that aligns to form a single through hole when the two layers are pressed together, as shown in FIG. 44C. An inner concentric member 97 can be received through the single through hole, thereby advantageously helping to hold the implant in one piece. This design advantageously avoids the use of fixation members (e.g., pins), which can protrude from the body of the implant and/or inadvertently come loose within the system. In other embodiments, fixation members can be incorporated into the design.

FIG. 45 is a cross-sectional view of a multi-piece implant 10 having a pair of bore holes 86, 88 according to some embodiments. As shown in the illustration, the multi-piece implant 10 is composed of two layers 12, 14, each of which includes a v-shaped mating face 27, 28.

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FIG. 46 illustrates a multi-piece implant 10 having concentric components 1810, 1820 according to some embodiments. The implant 10 includes a first concentric outer member 1810 and a second concentric inner member 1820 that fits therein. In some embodiments, the inner member 1820 is slidable

FIG. 47 illustrates a multi-piece implant 10 having an insertable component 1920 according to some embodiments. The implant 10 comprises a first layer 1910 including a slot 1927 that extends along a substantial portion of its width. The slot 1910 is configured to receive a second insertable layer 1920 that fits therein, thereby forming a multi-piece implant for implanting in an intervertebral space.

FIG. 48 illustrates an alternative multi-piece implant 10 having an insertable component 2020 according to some embodiments. The implant 10 comprises a first member 2010 that includes an open chamber 2017. The open chamber 2017 includes one or more slots or recesses 2019 formed therein to receive an insertable component 2020. As shown in the figure, the insertable component 2020 can comprise a planar structure that is slidable into a corresponding recess 2019. While the illustrated embodiment shows a chamber 2017 having a single recess 2019 corresponding to a single insertable component 2020, in other embodiments, the chamber 2017 can include more than one slot. In some embodiments, the insertable component 2020 can be pinned to the open chamber 2017, thereby helping to further secure the multi-piece implant for use.

FIGS. 49A and 49B illustrate different embodiments of a multi-piece implant 10 having components with engaging surfaces. FIG. 49A illustrates two separate multi-piece implants 10 having components with engaging surfaces. Dashed lines represent optional pin holes. In some embodiments, the implant 10 can include a first component 2112 having a cut corner that engages a second component 2114 having a different cut corner to form a single-bodied implant. In other embodiments, the implant 10 can include a first component 2112 having a cut corner, a second component 2114 having a different cut corner, and a third component 2116 that completes the form implant 10.

FIG. 49B illustrates an embodiment of a multi-piece implant 10 having two separate components. The first component 2114 includes a cut rectangular corner, while the second component 2112 comprises a geometry that fits within the cut rectangular corner of the first component 2114.

FIG. 50 illustrates a multi-piece implant 10 having a connecting plate member 2216 according to some embodiments. The implant 10 can comprise two cylindrical members 2210 and 2212. In alternative embodiments, the members 2210 and 2212 need not be cylindrical, but can be square, rectangular or any other shape. Each of the members 2210, 2212 include apertures 2213, 2214 for receiving a peg or rod of a connecting plate member 2216. The connecting plate member 2216 advantageously helps to hold the two cylindrical members 2210 and 2212 together, thereby forming an implant that is implantable in a vertebral space.

FIG. 51 illustrates a multi-piece implant 10 having threaded components according to some embodiments. The implant 10 can comprise a first component 2312 having an inner threaded section 2322 and a second component 2324 having a threaded protrusion 2324 that complements the inner threaded section 2322. The threaded components advantageously hold the implant together prior to, during and after implantation of the implant 10 in an intervertebral space.

FIGS. 52A and 52B illustrate a multi-piece implant having a concentric inner member according to some embodiments.

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FIG. 52A illustrates a cross-sectional view of an implant 10 having a concentric inner member 2408 that fits in an outer member 2414, while FIG. 52B shows a top view of the same implant 10. As shown in FIG. 52B, the outer member 2414 includes a central opening for receiving the inner member 2408, which resembles a ring. One or more bore holes can be formed through the inner and outer members to receive fixation devices for holding the implant together. While the bore holes are illustrated as diagonal bore holes 86, 88, 96, 98, in other embodiments, vertical and/or horizontal bore holes can be used to receive fixation devices.

FIG. 53 illustrates an insertable member 2515 of a multi-piece implant according to some embodiments. The insertable member 2515 resembles a horse-shoe shape that can be received, for example, in a slot formed in a receiving member (not shown). As shown in this embodiment, various inserts of different shapes, geometries and sizes can be used to form a multi-layer implant.

FIGS. 54A-54C illustrate an implant having shims according to some embodiments. The implant 10 comprises a body having an opening 2608 configured to receive one or more shim members 2611 therein. The implant can be sized and configured for use in any part of the vertebrae, including the lumbar, thoracic, and particularly, the cervical region.

The implant 10 comprises a body having an opening 2608 that is configured to receive bone material therein. The implant 10 can be a single-piece, or as in prior multi-piece implants described above, the implant 10 can include multiple layers. In some embodiments, the implant comprises a first layer 12 and a second layer 14. In other embodiments, the implant can be composed of three, four, five or more layers. In addition, while the layers 12 and 14 are stacked vertically, in other embodiments, the layers can be assembled horizontally or laterally.

As shown in FIGS. 54A-54C, the implant 10 can have a convexly curved anterior surface 7 and a concavely curved posterior surface 8. Such curvature can advantageously help to mimic the natural curvature of the space. In some embodiments, the convexly curved anterior surface 7 can have a curvature that is substantially smooth. In other embodiments, as shown in FIG. 54A, the curvature can include flat segments and even slight edges, so long as the overall surface is substantially curved. One skilled in the art will appreciate that the shape of the implant is not limited to the convexly curved anterior surface and concavely curved posterior surface. For example, in some embodiments, the implant 10 will have a convex surface opposed to a convex surface, or a convex surface opposed to a substantially flat surface. In addition, one skilled in the art will appreciate that the terms "anterior" and "posterior" are not limiting, and that the terms can be used to identify any opposing surface of the implant.

In some embodiments, the opening 2608 of the implant 10 extends from an upper superior surface to a lower superior surface of the implant. In some embodiments, the opening 2608 is composed of a first opening through the first layer 12 and a second opening through the second layer 14. In the illustrated embodiments, a first opening in the first layer 12 and a second opening through the second layer 14 can be substantially aligned to form the opening 2608. In other embodiments, a first opening in the first layer 12 and a second opening through the second layer 14 can be partially aligned and partially off-set.

As shown in FIGS. 54A and 54B, the opening 2608 in the implant 10 is symmetric, and includes a pair of opposing flat surfaces that transition into rounded corners. Advantageously, the rounded portions of the opening 2608 are configured to receive one or more shim members 2611 therein.

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While the illustrated embodiments show two shim members, the implant **10** can also be used with a single shim member, or three, four, five or more shim members.

The shim members **2611** are wedge-like members that are configured to be inserted (e.g., via friction or press-fit) through the opening **2608**. Advantageously, insertion of the shim members **2611** into the opening **2608** helps to maintain the different layers **12** and **14** together and further provides structural support to the overall implant. In some embodiments, the shim members **2611** are oval or elliptical in shape, although other shapes and geometries are also possible. In addition, as shown in the shim member represented in FIG. **57**, the shim members **2611** can include a small nub or protrusion **2613** that extends outwardly from a generally smooth, curved surface. The advantage of this nub **2613** is that it allows the shim to be more easily retained within the opening **2608** of the implant **10**. In some embodiments, the shim members **2611** are composed of the same or similar material as the body of the implant **10**. For example, the body of the implant **10** and the shim members **2611** can all be composed of allograft (e.g., cortical) bone. In other embodiments, the shim members **2611** are composed of a different material from the body of the implant **10**. For example, the body of the implant **10** can be composed of a cortical bone, while the shim members **2611** can be composed of a harder synthetic material.

In some embodiments, the opening **2608** can be configured to receive the shim members **2611** at an angle relative to an interface of the first layer **12** and the second layer **14**, as shown in FIG. **54C**. Advantageously, by having shim members **2611** that are at an angle to an interface of the first layer and the second layer, this can help provide additional security for securing the first layer to the second layer during implantation. However, one skilled in the art will appreciate that the shim members **2611** can also be provided parallel or perpendicular to the interface of the first layer and the second layer.

FIGS. **55A** and **55B** illustrate an alternative implant having shims according to some embodiments. The implant **10** is similar to the implant shown in FIG. **54A**, but also includes a plurality of ridges **236** on superior and/or inferior surfaces thereof. The ridges **236** advantageously help to grip adjacent vertebral surfaces. As shown in the illustrated embodiments, the ridges **236** can be formed on both the body of the spacer **10**, as well as on the surfaces of the shim members **2611**. In alternative embodiments, the body of the spacer **10** includes ridges, while the shim members **2611** do not include ridges. In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. **55B**, the ridges **236** can be separated by a planar surface such that they are maintained a certain distance from one another. In other embodiments, as shown in FIG. **56B**, the ridges **236** are not separated by a planar surface between one another. Rather, the ridges **236** are continuously formed and in general, do not extend from a planar surface. While the illustrated embodiments show surface texture comprised of ridges, other types of surface texturing can also be provided, including protrusions, teeth, and peg members.

FIGS. **56A-56C** illustrate an alternative implant having shims according to some embodiments. The implant **10** is similar to that shown in FIG. **55A**, but includes ridges **236** that are not spaced from one another. The ridges **236** in FIG. **56A** thus do not extend from a planar surface, but rather are continuously formed across the superior and/or inferior faces of the implant **10**. In contrast to the ridges in FIG. **55A** that extend from a substantially planar surface, in the embodiment in FIG. **56A**, the ridges themselves comprise the superior and/or inferior surfaces. In other words, there is no clear planar or base surface from which the ridges extend. In some

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embodiments, the entire superior and/or inferior faces of the implant **10** are covered in ridges or some type of surface protrusion. In other embodiments, and as shown in the figures, the ridges **236** need not extend across the entire superior and/or inferior surfaces, thereby allowing for a ridge-free portion on the surfaces. In some embodiments, the ridge-free portions of the implant **10** can advantageously be grasped by an instrument, such as an insertion instrument, to facilitate insertion or can be used as a distraction end.

In addition, as shown in FIG. **56B**, the implant **10** further includes one or more instrument gripping side channels **2660**. In some embodiments, the one or more side channels **2660** comprise a recess having walls without additional openings therein. In other embodiments, the side channels **2660** comprise a recess having walls that include additional openings (e.g., scalloped openings) formed therein. Advantageously, an insertion instrument can be used to grip the one or more side channels, thereby helping to deliver the implant into a desired surgical space.

FIGS. **58A-58D** illustrate an alternative implant for receiving a plug according to some embodiments. The implant **10** can have a concave face that opposes a convex face. In the center of the implant is an opening **2608** for receiving a plug **2610**. As shown in FIG. **58B**, the plug can have an upper flat surface and a bottom angled surface. As shown in FIG. **58D**, the implant **10** can be lordotic in order to fit into a desired anatomical space.

FIGS. **59A-59D** illustrate an alternative implant assembled from two or more members in series according to some embodiments. The implant **10** can be assembled from two or more members of cortical bone in series and/or parallel. This advantageously helps to create an implant that is longer and/or wider than a single-piece, natural bone diameter would allow for. In some embodiments, the implant **10** in the present embodiment can be used in a lateral approach; however, one skilled in the art will appreciate that the implant can be used via other approaches as well. Advantageously, the designs described herein are strong enough to withstand a variety of loading situations placed on the implant from insertion, while providing variability for manufacturing.

As shown in FIG. **59A**, the implant **10** can be formed of multiple members (e.g., cortical members) formed in series. In the present embodiment, the implant **10** includes three rings or members of cortical bone **2720**, **2721**, **2722** (e.g., from femoral rings) that are placed in series and attached to one another. Each of the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722** includes an upper surface and a lower surface having a plurality of ridges to assist in engage adjacent vertebral surfaces. The ridges advantageously prevent expulsion of the implant during increased loading on the implant **10**.

In addition, each of the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722** advantageously includes its own respective hole or opening **2708**, **2709**, **2710** for receiving graft material therethrough. The openings **2708**, **2709**, **2710** can be square-shaped with rounded edges. In some embodiments, a bone plug (e.g., cortical or cancellous) can also be provided through the opening.

As shown in FIG. **59A**, each of the member **2720**, **2721**, **2722** can have its own distinct shape and features. For example, member **2720** can have a curved, tapered leading end **2740** that can advantageously serve as a distraction edge in some embodiments. Member **2721**, which is in the middle of the three members, assumes a different shape (e.g., square) with actual corners. Trailing member **2722** can have curved edges similar to leading member **2720**. However, trailing member **2722** need not have a tapered edge.

To assemble the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722** in series and/or parallel, fixation members or bone pins can be inserted through the members. As shown in FIG. **59B**, the bone pins can be inserted through holes **86** that are formed through the bodies of the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722**. In some embodiments, the bone pins extend across the interface of at least two of the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722** to fix the members together. In some embodiments, the bone pins are inserted at an angle or diagonally across the interface of at least two of the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722**, while in other embodiments, the bone pins are inserted vertically. As shown in FIG. **59B**, the bore holes **86** for receiving the bone pins can have openings that open within one or more slots **2724** formed on the side of the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722**. In alternative embodiments, the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722** can be attached to one another via a different means, such as an adhesive. In addition, in some embodiments, the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722** may have complementary mating surfaces that interlock with one another, such as complementary “S” curves or step shapes as shown above. Any type of fastening mechanism, such as shims, biscuits, or interlocking “puzzle” features can be used instead of or in addition to the bone pins described above.

As shown in FIG. **59B**, one or more of the members **2720**, **2721**, **2722** can have one or more slots **2724** formed on a sidewall thereof. For example, in some embodiments, an extended slot will traverse at least partially along the side of each of members **2720**, **2721**, **2722**. In addition, a second slot (not shown) can be provided on an opposite side of the members. In some embodiments, a grasping or insertion instrument can be used to grab and hold the members to thereby deliver the adjoined members to a desired vertebral space.

FIG. **59C** shows a front view of the tapered leading end **2740** of the implant **10**. The tapered leading end **2740** can comprise a convex surface formed of a substantially flat surface **2742** with adjacent curved surfaces **2743**, **2744**. The adjacent curved surfaces **2743**, **2744** transition into the sidewalls of the spacer along its longitudinal length.

FIGS. **60A-60D** illustrate an alternative implant assembled from two or more members in series according to some embodiments. In the present embodiment, the members **2820**, **2821**, **2822** comprise members made from cortical bone that are substantially of the same shape. Each of the members **2820**, **2821**, **2822** includes opposing convex walls separated by straight walls. Each member also includes respective graft openings **2808**, **2809**, **2810** for receiving graft material therein. As shown in FIG. **60A**, each of the members **2820**, **2821**, **2822** includes at least one bore hole **86** extending therethrough. The bore hole **86** through one member is continuous with a bore hole through another member so as to allow a bone pin or fastener to be inserted across an interface between two members. In some embodiments, the bore holes **86** are diagonal, while in other embodiments, the bore holes are vertical or horizontal.

As shown in FIG. **60B**, the bore holes **86** can be formed such that members **2820** and **2822** have openings through their convex faces. Middle member **2821** will not have bore holes **86** that extend through its convex faces.

As shown in FIG. **60C**, one or more bone pins **2811** can be inserted through the bore holes **86**. Advantageously, each interface between members has at least two bone pins **2811**. For example, the interface between member **2820** and **2821** has at least two bone pins, while the interface between member **2821** and **2822** has at least two bone pins. This advantageously forms a secure locking mechanism that secures the members together. Any of the other attachment mechanisms, such as adhesives or complementary mating features, can also be applied to the present embodiment.

The embodiments in FIGS. **59A-60D** provide implants that are strong to withstand loading. In addition, the implants can be assembled in series, and provide desired variability to a surgeon. In some embodiments, the implants can be preassembled such that a surgeon can pick from a number of different configurations. In other embodiments, the surgeon can assemble the implants himself prior to performing a surgery. In some embodiments, the implants can comprise cortical bone (e.g., femoral rings) that are attached in series to allow the implant to span the majority of a disc space, thereby providing a larger area for fusion and greater stability. As the members are advantageously attached in series, the total length of the implant can be increased to cover more surface area in an intervertebral space. Cutouts or slots in the implant advantageously allow the surgeon to use an instrument designed with the implant to firmly hold and precisely place the implant in a desired intervertebral space.

FIG. **61** illustrates an alternative implant assembled from two or more members in series and in a stacked configuration according to some embodiments. In the present embodiment, four members **2920**, **2921**, **2922** and **2923** are arranged side-by-side. In some embodiments, the members are arranged in series (e.g., member **2920** is arranged side-by-side with member **2921**). Alternatively, the members can be viewed as on the same plane but stacked. For example, members **2920** and **2921** are stacked on top of members **2922** and **2923**. Each of the members includes its own graft hole **2907**, **2908**, **2909** and **2910**. In addition, at least one bore hole **86** extends between the interfaces amongst each of the members.

#### Additional Characteristics

In addition to those features discussed above, additional features are now described. Any combination of features are possible to include in the implants discussed above.

In some embodiments, the implants can be formed of allograft, xenograft, synthetic material or combinations thereof. Specific materials possible for use include cortical bone, cancellous bone, cortico-cancellous bone, collagen, PEEK, titanium, stainless steel, PLA, PLDL and other materials.

In some embodiments, the implants are formed monolithically. In other embodiments, the implants are multi-piece, and are composed of two or more layers. The layers can be generally planar; however, in some embodiments, the multi-piece implant can include non-planar components. For example, an implant can comprise a first portion comprised of a square block member with a square hole formed therein and a second portion that is capable of filling in the hole.

The implants can be incorporated in multiple levels of the spine. For example, the implants described above can be suited for use in the cervical, thoracic and lumbar regions of the spine.

In some embodiments, the implants have substantially planar superior and inferior surfaces that are parallel and are not lordotic. In some embodiments, these implants can have anterior and posterior sides of similar height. In other embodiments, the implants have a degree of lordosis, such as up to 20 degrees with respect to a midplane. In some embodiments, these lordotic implants can have curved edges and/or curved upper/lower sides.

The implants described above can include a mid-plane that extends a length between a superior surface and an inferior surface. In some embodiments, the superior surface and inferior surface are parallel to the mid-plane. In other embodiments, only one of the superior surface and inferior surface are parallel to the mid-plane. And in another embodiment, neither the superior surface nor the inferior surface are parallel to the mid-plane.

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The implants discussed above can have anterior, posterior and sidewalls of various shapes. For example, the walls can be curved, planar and angled.

For multi-layered implants composed of two or more layers, various interfaces can be formed between the implants. For example, the implant can include a mating face interface that is flat, curved, slanted, waffle-patterned, dovetail-patterned, t-shaped, lego, textured, or any other shape.

In some embodiments, the superior and/or inferior faces can include roughened surfaces. The roughened surfaces can include teeth, ribs, ridges, or any other types of surface protrusion. Among the surfaces that can include three-sided teeth, four-sided teeth, five-sided teeth, six-sided teeth and more, ridges, conical protrusions, saw teeth, pyramidal teeth and simple textures. In some embodiments, the tip of the surface protrusions can be rounded, sharp, flat, blunt or concave.

The implants can include a number of different insertion features. Among the insertion features include parallel slots, converging slots, dimples, channels, nubs, holes (threaded) and holes (non-threaded). These insertion features can be located in one or more places of the implant body, including into the body of the implant, along side walls, or on superior and inferior surfaces.

In some embodiments, the implants can include one or more graft holes. The graft holes can be of various shapes, including circular, triangular, square, oval tear-drop, tapered, trapezoidal and rectangular. In some embodiments, the graft holes have a length that is greater than the width of adjacent walls, while in other embodiments, the graft holes have a length that is less than the width of adjacent walls. The graft holes can be placed in a number of positions, such as centrally, offset in an anterior-posterior direction, offset in a medial-lateral direction, or offset diagonally. In some embodiments, the graft hole can be formed of two or more holes that are aligned, while in other embodiments, the graft hole can be formed of two or more holes that overlap but may be axially offset from one another.

While the invention herein disclosed has been described by means of specific embodiments and applications thereof, numerous modifications and variations can be made thereto by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. An intervertebral implant for implantation in an intervertebral space comprising:

two or more cortical bone members assembled relative to one another, the two or more members forming a unit comprising:

an upper surface having a plurality of ridges,  
a lower surface having a plurality of ridges, and  
an opening that extends through the upper surface and the lower surface;

a first bore hole that extends through the two or more cortical bone members;

a second bore hole that extends through the two or more cortical bone members;

a first fixation member inserted through the first bore hole, wherein the first fixation member extends across an interface between two members; and

a second fixation member inserted through the second bore hole, wherein the second fixation member extends across an interface between two members,

wherein the first bore hole and the second bore hole are both blind holes such that they do not extend from the upper surface to the lower surface of the implant, wherein the first bore hole and the second bore hole are

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configured to open on only one of either the upper surface or the lower surface of the implant, wherein the first bore hole and the second bore hole open on the same surface of the implant,

wherein the first and second bore holes are diagonal to the upper or lower surface.

2. The implant of claim 1, wherein the implant comprises first, second and third members aligned in series.

3. The implant of claim 2, wherein the first member includes a tapered leading end.

4. The implant of claim 3, wherein the tapered leading end comprises a substantially flat surface adjacent to two curved surfaces.

5. The implant of claim 1, wherein the opening that extends through the upper surface and the lower surface is substantially rectangular with rounded edges.

6. The implant of claim 1, wherein the opening is configured to receive a bone plug therethrough.

7. The implant of claim 1, wherein at least one of the cortical bone members includes a slot for receiving an insertion instrument therethrough.

8. The implant of claim 7, wherein the slot extends along a length through at least two of the cortical bone members.

9. The implant of claim 1, wherein two or more cortical bone members are of similar shape.

10. The implant of claim 1, wherein the first fixation member comprises a bone screw or shim.

11. An intervertebral implant for implantation in an intervertebral space comprising:

two or more members assembled in series relative to one another, the two or more members forming a unit comprising:

an upper surface having texturing,  
a lower surface having texturing,  
an opening that extends through the upper surface and the lower surface;

a first bore hole that extends through the two or more members;

a second bore hole that extends through the two or more members;

a first bone pin inserted through the first bore hole, wherein the first bone pin extends across an interface between the two or more members; and

a second bone pin inserted through the second bore hole, wherein the second bone pin extends across an interface between the two or more members,

wherein the first bore hole and the second bore hole are both blind holes such that they do not extend from the upper surface to the lower surface of the implant, wherein the first bore hole and the second bore hole are each configured to open on only one of either the upper surface or the lower surface of the implant, wherein the first bore hole and the second bore hole open on the same surface of the implant.

12. The implant of claim 11, wherein the first bore hole is diagonal across the interface between two members.

13. The implant of claim 11, comprising a first member, a second member and a third member, wherein the second member is in between the first member and the third member, and wherein at least two bone pins extend across the interface between the first member and the second member and at least two bone pins extend across the interface between the second member and the third member.

14. The implant of claim 13, wherein the first member, second member and third member are similarly shaped to one another.

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**15.** The implant of claim **13**, wherein the first member, second member and third member have openings there-through with rounded edges.

**16.** The implant of claim **11**, comprising three, four, five, six or more members assembled in series or stacked side-by-side next to one another.

**17.** An intervertebral implant for implantation in an intervertebral space comprising:

a first member and a second member assembled relative to one another, the first member and the second member forming a unit comprising:

an upper surface having ridges,

a lower surface having ridges, and

an opening that extends through the upper surface and the lower surface;

a first locking mechanism that extends through the first member and the second member; and

a second locking mechanism that extends through the first member and the second member,

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wherein both the first locking mechanism and the second locking mechanism extend through the upper surface of the implant but do not extend through the lower surface of the implant,

wherein the first and second locking mechanisms are diagonal to the upper or lower surface.

**18.** The implant of claim **17**, wherein the first and second locking mechanisms comprise bone pins extending across an interface between the first member and the second member.

**19.** The implant of claim **17**, wherein the first and second locking mechanisms comprise an adhesive between an interface between the first member and the second member.

**20.** The implant of claim **17**, wherein the first and second locking mechanisms comprise complementary mating surfaces at an interface between the first member and the second member.

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